

# THE NONCONFORMIST.

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## Ecclesiastical Affairs.

### HOLIDAY EXCURSIONS.

#### No. XII.

#### THE STONE ROLLED AWAY.

PROVIDENCE, in carrying on its greatest designs, oftentimes employs a kind of rough compulsion, which, disagreeable as it is in itself, is usually productive of the most salutary results. Violent convulsions, shiverings, and the like, are but the efforts of nature to throw off disease. The most valuable discoveries have been the offspring of the hardest necessities. In the moral world, as in the natural, there are caves in the mountain-side which imagination peoples with sprites and ogres; and he whose duty takes him into their vicinity, haunted by his own superstitious fancy, hurries by them with closed eyes and with averted head. Generations come and go, and mystery still hangs over these avoided localities. Fiction, delighting to lay her scene in the obscure, associates with their history tales of terrifying wonder, which ignorant credulity receives, and time sanctifies. At length some tempest drives belated travelers to take refuge from the real dangers without amid the fancied perils within. Crossing themselves, and repeating with fervour all the devotional formulas with which memory can supply them, they tremblingly enter. No goblin opposes them. They take their rest. No spectre troubles their repose. Morning comes, and, with its light, come courage and curiosity. They look around them. The place is not so frightful after all. Some features of it, moreover, are peculiarly interesting. They depart unharmed. Well! their eyes have seen the awful spot. 'Tis no great feat of hardihood to repeat their visit. What is the upshot? Mineral wealth in richest abundance is discovered, and cheerful labour soon converts what all men had agreed, in their unwitting fear, to denote a curse, into a source of blessings innumerable.

For centuries, the question of ecclesiastical freedom, in its fullest significance, has been to churchmen, even to the pious amongst them, a subject tabooed to speculation. Bishops had placed it under their ban—and thought durst not enter upon it. The topic became associated, in the minds of most, with every form of impiety and anarchy—and, it has been curious enough to observe, when any line of argument brought the admirers of the establishment principle within sight of Christian willinghood, how they have invariably darted off to the right or to the left, as if startled at their own imprudent boldness in venturing so close upon the limits of the forbidden. An unchurched state! Oh! horrible! Nobody would look upon it, even from a distance. What could such an anomaly be but the fitting haunt of chimeras dire, and unblest'd purposes? Upon men filled with this idea, reasoning was thrown away; and the best specimens which could be handed to them of practical results, they persisted in looking upon as nothing else than the lure made use of by the spirit of rebellion, to entice the unwary from ecclesiastical allegiance. Dissent always had been, always must be, an unmitigable evil. Authority had uniformly denounced it, and it must be wrong.

But there have been troubles, of late, within the pale of both the English and the Scotch Establishments. A large and influential band, pursued by a relentless necessity, have been compelled to quit the latter, and to seek an asylum in the bosom of the voluntary principle. With tears and tremblings they went, as doomed men, to hide their sorrows thither. Thousands of their sympathising brethren in England, peered into the awful chasm into which the supposed victims were forced to enter.

The sobbing exiles were not devoured. Nay! as they grew familiar with their home they seemed, both to themselves and to on-lookers, to be possessed of some springs of spiritual health and enjoyment. And now, oftentimes, men of mark, clerical as well as lay, in the Church of England, vexed with the antics of concealed Romanism, and alarmed at the darkening purposes of government, may be seen standing at no great distance from voluntarism, casting furtive glances at its yet dreaded precincts, and ruminating upon the questions—"Shall we, too, venture? Is all true which has been uttered against it? May not circumstances reconcile us to abide there?"

Here, then, we have progress. Events, like lusty strangers, have opportunely appeared, to roll away the stone from the well's mouth. Serious churchmen begin to regard the severance of the connexion between Church and State, as an alternative to which circumstances may, perchance, compel them to submit. They eye it askance, as householders, upon whom poverty is every week encroaching, eye a union workhouse—with some curiosity as to its capabilities, with a decided aversion to take refuge in it, but with a predominant presentiment that, at no distant day, it may be chosen in preference to more dreaded evils. They are somewhat interested in examining solid proofs in its favour. They are precluded by their own prospects from denouncing it with an *ex cathedra* infallibility. The question, with them, has come to be one which *may be looked at*, as a last resort. Old prejudices are still strong against it—but there is just that amount of unsettledness about the position of those who entertain them, as to insure it against off-hand condemnation. It now takes rank with those matters of controversy which wise men would do well to search into with a view to ultimate settlement.

Now, we take this to be one of the most significant and cheering characteristics of the present day, in relation to the ecclesiastical changes to which we look forward. If the state of feeling we have attempted to describe be at all prevalent, one of the most formidable obstacles in the way of the church's emancipation is removed. It is clearly of no use, even although you might reason like an angel, to argue with men who have avowedly made up their minds, and who esteem it a sort of treachery to their highest interests, to admit a proscribed idea to a moment's parley. Books, in such case, may be written, but who will read them? Lectures may be delivered, and who but the already convinced will attend them? Efforts may be made to give prominence to a great principle, but such efforts are usually resented as obtrusive. A great point is gained, when the mind, embedded in authority, is loosened from the surrounding soil. There it may rest even yet—but it is plainly not immovable. At length, you may gain a purchase for the leverage which you employ. Truth has a fair chance of telling now. Once undergird the sunken ship with chains, and the question as to her being raised, becomes a mere question of power. In the case of state-churchism, Providence has done that for us. No one can say to what extent we may not now succeed, were we to put out our whole strength, adjust our means and appliances with wisdom, and pull all together. In the mind of many a sturdy churchman, a peradventure has been lodged on behalf of the voluntary principle. Surely, it should be our care so to follow up the advantage, as to push conviction through the door by which that peradventure gained admission.

SITES FOR CHURCHES.—LORD PANMURE.—We rejoice to hear that there is now every prospect of a convenient site being immediately granted by this nobleman to the Free church congregation of Carmylie.—*Scottish Herald*.

The friends of Protestant principles in the establishment and out have been shocked to see the *quondam* evangelical divine, Henry Melville, principal of the East Indian college, preaching in the Tractarian church of the "Holy Cross," *alias* St Saviour's, Leeds, in connexion with Dr Pusey and the leading traitors of the established church.—*Western Times*.

LATE REMORSE.—We understand that a subscription is opened among the "Anglo-Catholics" and others, to repay the proceeds of his fellowship and living for the last ten years; as he is reported to be troubled at the reflection that he was holding these while, in fact, he was not a member of the established church.—*Globe*.

## BRITISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.

### THREE THOUSAND POUND FUND.

A public *soirée* in aid of the funds of this institution was held at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate street, on Friday, the 21st inst. The attendance was most gratifying, far surpassing the most sanguine expectations of the committee. Although the large, with two smaller, rooms were appropriated to the use of the company, there was not sufficient accommodation for all; and upwards of fifty persons were obliged to be refused admission. The *soirée* took place at six o'clock, by which time the rooms were filled with a highly-gratified company, amounting to between 600 and 700, including a large number of ladies, to several of whom the executive committee were indebted, not only for gracing the room with their own presence, but also for having induced the attendance of their friends. The proprietor of the tavern performed his part with his usual taste and liberality. The tables exhibited a profusion of plate, in the shape of tea and coffee pots, with a copious supply of various descriptions of bread and fruit; and, as they were covered with linen, and the chandeliers were lighted, the scene was exceedingly bright and attractive.

After partaking of the refreshments provided, the whole of the company assembled in the large hall, which, when the chair was taken, was filled by an attentive and enthusiastic auditory. During a pause between the speeches, the chairman explained the proposed plan for raising £3,000; and a list of donations and subscriptions was read over, amounting to £120. Among the names mentioned was that of Mr Peto, the celebrated builder and contractor, for £20, annual subscription.

Dr Thomas Price occupied the chair, and amongst the gentlemen present we observed Dr Cox, Messrs Eckett, Forster, Bean, Katterns, Woodward, Morton, Lehmann, &c.; John Lee, Esq., D.C.L.; E. Miall, Esq.; J. M. Hare, Esq.; S. M. Peto, Esq.; T. Hall, Esq.; R. Besley, Esq.; E. Swaine, Esq.; H. Bidgood, Esq.; Dr Lankester; C. Childs, Esq.; W. Huxtable, Esq.; Dr Oxley; Stafford Allen, Esq., &c., &c.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the proceedings, said: We have met for the promotion of a common, and, as we deem it, a most important object. When I look around this room, I cannot but congratulate the Anti-state-church Association on the aspect it presents [cheers], that, in the course of so short a time, there should have been awakened an interest in your society sufficiently powerful to convene together such a meeting as the present. I acknowledge this to be one of the most exhilarating indications of public feeling which, for a long time, I have witnessed. This Association has been in existence about a year and a half. Its constitution is at once simple, definite, and intelligible. There is no attempt at concealment, neither are there any equivocal phrases employed by which the co-operation of any may be obtained who are not, in principle and in spirit, one with us in our object [hear, hear]. The title given to the society, and the statements which have been put forth as explanatory of its objects, have all tended to set distinctly before the public mind the one great, paramount, exclusive purpose of our organisation, the end which we contemplate, and the means by which we seek to attain it. We are not surprised that the society should have been subjected to much misapprehension. It would, indeed, have betokened much ignorance of human nature, and of the influences which are abroad in the world, had we anticipated otherwise. From the first, we calculated that our principles would be misstated, and our motives impugned; but, in whatever measure this has occurred, we have found in it nothing to deter us from the most zealous prosecution of our career [cheers]. That the members of the Established churches of this empire should regard with great hostility a movement of this kind, is not a matter of surprise; but still, the hostility avowed by them has, in most cases, been founded on a misapprehension of what the society really is. It has been supposed, that we have brought to the contest personal acrimony, personal enmity, rather than the deep conviction of religious principle; that we have pledged ourselves to continue engaged in a contest with the members of the hierarchy, rather than with the hierarchy itself. We wish it to be distinctly understood, whether our statement be credited or not, that we are cordially prepared to appreciate whatever moral and religious excellencies are to be found

amongst the members of established churches [cheers]—and that we do in our hearts believe and joyfully give utterance to it, that there are in them men eminently devoted to their religious vocation, honestly seeking the great purposes of the Christian ministry, and entitled, therefore, to the attachment of all Christian men [loud cheers]. We can rejoice in the contemplation of excellencies thus found within the pales of churches from which we are compelled to dissent. We can rejoice in the common and universal elements of Christian character which are to be recognised amidst all the questions on which we are dissociated from each other. But believing them to be in error with respect to state establishments, we feel bound to assail the system to which they are wedded, whilst at the same time we can appreciate their personal excellencies and rejoice in their ministerial success [cheers]. We have no contest whatever with the Episcopalianism of the English church; we wish it to be distinctly understood, that, as an association, we are no more opposed to that than to any other form of ecclesiastical polity. As an association, we have nothing to do with theological dogmas or with ecclesiastical forms [cheers]; the bond of union on which we firmly and determinately take our stand being this, that the church of Christ should be relieved from her present secular connexions, and be left to the management of her own affairs, unaided either by the wealth or by the control of earthly powers. We claim for the church of Christ, not Congregationalism, but a return to that primitive independence of all secular control which constituted the glory, and contributed so mightily to the power, of the early church [cheers]. But our association has relation to other parties than those who are within the pale of the established church; and it would be unworthy of the frankness so appropriate to our cause, if we did not, on this and on all similar occasions, without hesitation avow the fact, that from many of our friends—men with whom we are intimate in personal and social relationship—men with whom we accord in the main, in the ecclesiastical views which they entertain, we fail to receive either the sympathy or the support to which we think ourselves entitled. We hold, however, that, as we claim liberty of thought and of action for ourselves, so they are equally entitled to it. We regret the grounds of their alienation from us; yet, were we assured that that alienation would be perpetual, our decision would remain what it is. But having the fullest confidence in the soundness and integrity of our organisation, and believing that it is intimately connected with the purity of the church of Christ, that there should be some such confederation as this in order to the vindication of religious truth from the aspersions which have long been heaped upon it, and that the Christian world must awaken to a full and practical recognition of the principle involved in our society, we are assured that such of our brethren as accord with us in principle, but for a time stand aloof from our organisation, will gradually give in their adhesion to us [hear]. Our business is to appeal from the misconstruction and suspicion of the passing hour to the measures that we adopt, and the fruits which are obviously springing from those measures. We are content for the hour to be suspected and misconstrued, in the confidence that ultimately those of our brethren who adopt our principles will be found to acknowledge that our convictions were sound, and that their conversion, consequently, has been somewhat too late [cheers]. At first we were suspected of ultraism and violence of spirit. Such suspicion has happily been fully disproved by the course of events; and I apprehend if the society, so far as the Dissenting community is concerned, had made no other progress than that which is visible in the altered estimation now formed of its spirit, it would not have lived in vain. Having lived down prejudice and misapprehension of this kind, now, in the light of open day, we ask all parties, friends or foes, to look upon us with the keenest vision, but with a candid mind, in order to see whether, with our convictions and principles, any other course was open to us than that which we have pursued [cheers]. Our object is to enlighten the public mind, and, through that enlightenment, to bring ultimately to bear, by constitutional means, upon the Commons' House of parliament such a force of moral sentiment as shall give practical efficiency to our views. Let it be remembered that the union against which we protest, the one great evil which we decry, and which we are seeking to remove, is a thing of parliamentary creation, and can, therefore, be destroyed only by parliamentary acts [hear, hear]. In order that we may obtain these acts, we must send to the House men imbued with our principles [long-continued cheers]. Ah, Protestant Dissenters, we hope that, in future, there will be better accordance between the acclamations given to such statements, and the deeds by which they are followed [hear, hear]. We have heard hurrahs and other intimations of public favour in former times; but, when the hour of trial has come, where have they been [cheers]? Let not, however, our spirit evaporate in expressions such as these; but giving depth, breadth, consistency, and firmness, to our convictions, let it be found, under whatever circumstances, that we are men honest in our avowals, and prepared faithfully to carry them out [loud cheers]. I will not, however, occupy more of your time, but simply state, that four sentiments have been prepared, which will be submitted to you instead of resolutions [cheers].

Dr Cox then rose, amidst loud applause, to submit the following sentiment:—

The speedy liberation of the Christian church from the bondage of state support. May recent acts of the British legislature, and future measures avowedly contemplated by it, for strengthening and perpetuating the

principle of church establishments, by extending it, be overruled by Divine Providence for an early and complete dissolution of every form of alliance between church and state.

Every age has its appropriate work to do, though every age does not, with sufficient distinctness, perceive the nature of its high vocation. But if each age had studied with sufficient care those providential intimations which have ever been given by the Supreme Ruler of the world, as to what was the duty of men with regard to those great questions which from time to time have been brought before them, there is no doubt whatever, that the world would have highly benefited by a more decided action with regard to that Christianity which we all long to emancipate from its shackles, and the diffusion of which we seek to promote throughout the universal world. If we look back to the primitive age, and contemplate the character of those times, and the circumstances in which Christianity established herself, we shall see that, though we have advanced in time, yet we have receded in moral character and purpose. Our great vocation in the present age is, to return back to primitive times, to cherish the primitive spirit, and to unite together, for the purpose of removing out of the way whatever may tend to the obstruction of that Christianity which has already marched to a considerable distance over the graves of multitudes of its opponents, and is destined at length to attain a universal triumph. Christianity in its first introduction possessed a character of pre-eminent simplicity. Its great Promoter went forth as a poor man, with truth dropping from his lips, and with the thorny crown upon his suffering brow. Truth went forth then without pomp, with the sword of the Spirit in her hand, but not with the sword of human powers or compulsion. It was the intention of the disciples and the apostles of our Lord, in going forth into all the world, not to coerce men's minds, but to preach the gospel. Christianity thus went forth conquering and to conquer. But, alas! those who were connected with her in early days began to grow great in the world; their eyes became dim with the pomps and glories which glittered around them, and at last Christianity was—elevated?—no, depressed. She was brought into connexion and association with the state, and that has proved the fountain of innumerable evils, which have run down the streams of malignity and persecution through successive ages, bringing the faithful servants of Christ to the fire and the stake, and thus opposing all those great principles which our Lord introduced as the basis of his church, and especially by his own oft-quoted, but never too often quoted language, "My kingdom is not of this world." There stands that declaration which we deem to be our rallying point. Around this we are associated, and we seek to carry out this great principle, in all the modes, and forms, and directions, in which we can extend it. We stand forward to-night to maintain that principle, and to go forward in that determination in connexion with the institution which we have formed. We love our Nonconformity. If any man should ask me, what must be the essential element of consistency in religion, and in the advancement of our cause, as opposed to all ecclesiastical hierarchies and the principle of church and state establishments, I reply, that the ground which we must take is to love the principles of Nonconformity [hear, hear]. We love Nonconformity because we deem it to be scriptural, and we feel it to be essential to the purity of Christianity. We love it, because, in promoting the purity of Christianity, by our Nonconformity, we promote its power and its prevalence in the world [cheers]. It is for an important object, therefore, that we are assembled on this occasion. We have formed this society according to the language of the sentiment I have read, for "the speedy liberation of the Christian church from the bondage of State support." There is nothing in the maintenance of our principle, however uncompromising we may be, that demands, or that even permits, personal hostility to any; our contest is with systems, not with men. We may be uncompromising in our principle, and nevertheless, in association with those from whom we differ, be kind and conciliating. In proportion as we love another, we must be concerned to convince him, if we deem him in error. The effort to convince another of what we deem to be truth, is in itself the highest proof of our attachment to him, because it is a declaration, on our part, that we are unwilling that he should suffer by his error. Let it not be supposed our aim to overthrow anti-Christian systems of religion possesses the character of violence. It possesses a character of firmness, decision, uncompromising perseverance in doing that which we deem to be right, but not the character of violence. Violence arises from a wrong perception of what is due to our neighbour, and must ever be contrary to the love we owe him; but that genuine spirit of Christianity on which we profess to act, and which, I trust, influences us in all our exertions, is a spirit of another sort—kind, conciliating, and yet determined to promote the great object which we have continually in view [cheers]. The most important and peculiar business of the present age is, the separation of the church from the state [hear, hear]—the dissolution of that union which has been productive of so many evils, and in seeking the dissolution of which we profess no hostility to Episcopalianism. We are aiming nothing at one particular church, but we are laying the axe to the root of that principle which has been the foundation of all those systems of religion that have linked themselves with the state. It appears to me that consistent Dissenters ought to come forward and connect themselves with our society. We have had two species of opposition to encounter—the opposition of those who maintain the principle of the church and

state establishment of religion, and the icy coldness of others, whom we had a right to claim as coadjutors in our work [hear, hear, hear]. I do not stand here as an accuser of my brethren. I felt it my duty to come forward at an early period of our cause, notwithstanding the obloquy which then attached to our movement; and I have not repented, and shall not repent, that I then associated myself with my brethren, feeble and few as some would deem them. If we look to the ecclesiastical history of the world, we shall always find that God has accomplished great things by the few, not by the many [cheers]. Who drew Luther from his recesses, but He whose mighty power and sanctifying grace have always displayed themselves, in producing great effects by comparatively small instruments? It was nothing to him that the whole Popish world rose in arms against that individual man. The Bible was given to the German people in the German language, and it diffused divine knowledge everywhere [cheers]. And what is our object? To diffuse knowledge, to communicate information, to spread tracts, to send forth instruction by means of lecturers, and by those methods best calculated to enlighten, not to coerce men [hear, hear]. We are said to be political Dissenters [laughter]. There is truth in this; but who made us so [cheers]? This must ultimately be a political movement, and that for the reasons already assigned. You, and other individuals connected with our cause, will soon be called upon to give your votes at an election, which, under existing circumstances, must be one of the most important that has ever occurred in the history of our country. If we move forward with an enlightened zeal towards our object, we shall be able to send some members to the House of Commons, who, though they may be few in number, will nevertheless be men of the right stamp, men who hold and understand our principles, who will not be frowned down on the one hand, nor conciliated into indifference on the other [cheers]. We have to meet a great and giant evil; and how are we to do it? There is an infant Hercules born; and we are its nursing fathers and mothers. The infant is already stretching its mighty limbs for the conflict, and is grasping the club to beat out the brains of all ecclesiastical corruptions [a laugh]. Of course I speak metaphorically [laughter and cheers]. This infant, with his mighty power, is rising up in majesty and force to accomplish the great end we have in view. His name is Public Opinion [cheers]. If we succeed in gaining over public opinion to the great principles which we advocate, we feel that, however few we now are in numbers, we shall be mighty in moral strength. The cause must prevail, because it is the cause of God and of truth [cheers]. I know the questions have been asked, What have you done? and what are you likely to do? We have endeavoured to diffuse scriptural truth; we have taken our position, and are resolved to maintain it, come what may. We have gained some minds formerly hostile to our proceedings; we have convinced them that we are not violent men, and that, while we are firm, yet we are kind. Let us not imagine that the attainment of our object is at so great a distance as some conceive. I remember a period when, with respect to the repeal of the test and corporation acts, many argued, that, having appealed to the House for so many years without anything being done, we had better cease from future applications, while others maintained the propriety of continuing our efforts. We acted upon principle, and in six months afterwards those acts were repealed [cheers]. I hope there are many friends around us, who, at no distant time, will "commit themselves" to this question, and who will unite with us who have been "committing ourselves" for two or three years. We ask them to come and "commit themselves" now, if they please, by becoming committee men [cheers].

Mr BEAN, Independent minister, in supporting the sentiment, said: My attachment to the voluntary principle is stronger than ever, simply because I am more than ever convinced it is a principle founded on the Word of God ["hear," and cheers]. I profess to be a follower of the Lord Jesus Christ; in his word, he has described to me the nature of his church, and I feel that I am solemnly bound to maintain the great principles which he has set before me. Voluntaryism is better understood now than it was formerly. Reference has been made to the late political movement with a view to return to parliament my respected friend now on my right (Mr Miall) [loud cheers]. By some that movement has been deemed a failure [cries of "No!"]; but I believe that it has done more to diffuse our principles, as Voluntaries, than any other effort that I can recollect. I have been requested to mention a publication with which I am connected—the *Voluntary*. It is devoted to this one object, and there are several friends of talent, influence, and property, who write gratuitously for that publication. I feel that every member of a Christian church, and every minister of the gospel, ought to speak to his family, his neighbours, and his flock, on the importance and on the scriptural character of the Voluntary principle. I believe that the day will come, when many who are now advocating the coercive principle will be silent upon it and become the champions of its antagonist [cheers].

Mr W. FORSTER, Independent minister, said:—There is in the large towns which I have visited, in connexion with this Association, a deep and growing feeling in its favour. The sentiment which I have to introduce, is this:—

"The spread of enlightened Voluntaryism—May all Christians appreciate its power to sustain Christian institutions, and recognise it as the law of Christ for the extension of his kingdom."

The term "Voluntary," as it has been employed of late years, is, in my opinion, very defective; for it shuts out some of the most important qualities of which the principle consists. The use of this term has furnished almost a plausible ground for a grave objection. The mere absence of external force in the support of religion, might suppose the abandonment of the Christian ministry and the means of religious instruction to the mere waywardness of individuals, and thereby endanger the very existence of Christianity itself. Enemies have laid hold of this as a representation, or rather, a misrepresentation, of this principle. I admit, that, if they had not been blinded by prejudice, they would have seen that the mere absence of external force does not suppose the absence of moral force, or the force of conviction. The voluntary principle, because it does not spring out of the fear of the law or of the sword, is not, therefore, feeble and fitful, but, in reality, is the mightiest principle that ever wielded the great and generous power with which God has endowed man. To distrust this principle, is as absurd as to distrust the great and certain power of the laws of nature. These are not more certain than the love on which Jesus Christ has placed the maintenance and extension of his kingdom. Suppose there were a parliament of philosophers instituted to pass laws to regulate the course of the sun, the ebbing and the flowing of the tides, the succession of the seasons, the way of the winds, and the temperature of the atmosphere, it would cause one universal burst of laughter and ridicule; but the worst of this would be its expense. But, when a political body of men, called a Parliament, enter the region of thought and feeling and conviction and conscience, it is more than absurd and more than expensive—it is something approaching to impiety itself [loud cheers]. It is the attempt to introduce a great organic change in the Christian religion—to thrust Cæsar into the throne and kingdom of Christ [cheers]. If that is not impiety, impiety has changed its nature, and must go and seek another name [hear, hear]. The pretext for such a proceeding, on the part of politicians and others, who say that they are interested in Christianity, is something like this: they consider that religion, like a fruitful vine, without a prop or without support, would droop and fall down and die, unless it clasped its tenacious tendrils around the Throne, and well dressed by the pruning-hook of State vine-dressers [cheers]. This pretext has no ground in theory, nor any support in fact itself. The Voluntary Principle, as I have endeavoured to define it, is man himself, under the influence of the deepest conviction that can lay hold of his rational and immortal nature. Look at what man has done. He has brought the most distant parts of the earth so near together, that you may visit them almost with the rapidity of traveling on the wings of the wind; he has so subdued the powers of nature to his control, that he may work them like the docile horse or ox, to supply his varied wants. This is the individual who is expected, under the influence of religious feeling, to carry on and to sustain the institutions necessary for his progress in holiness and in all moral excellency. There can be no difficulty, then, in supporting the institution referred to in the words of the sentiment [cheers]. Difficulty to sustain religious institutions must be as light to such a being as man, as is the noble mane floating upon its neck to the majestic lion, light as the feathers with which the eagle cleaves the clouds and seeks the sun. But it was said that men have no interest in religion naturally. What was it that adorned the states of antiquity with beautiful temples, and that sustained such a numerous priesthood in all directions? It is said that kingcraft and priestcraft combined together produced it. Did they? They might stir up the sacred fire, and feed it with fuel; but whence did the fire come [cheers]? Did they commit the Promethean theft, and bring it clandestinely from the skies [hear, hear]? The sense of an interest in religion is in-born: God himself, with his divine hand, kneaded it into the constitution of the creature, from whom he expects love, service, and homage, not through the fear of punishment, but because he has a right over the heart, the conscience, and the whole soul [hear, hear]. Allied with Paganism, Voluntaryism has done much; but what has it done in its alliance with Christianity? Did not Christianity progress against all opposition until it overthrew Paganism, which had long stood on the prejudices of the people? Voluntaryism, then, is the principle to which Jesus has committed his cause; and in doing this he showed his infallible wisdom. He who knew what was in man, knew that his divine doctrine, combining with human nature itself, would produce a principle by which his religion would progress against everything that could injure his cause in the hearts and souls of men. It brings under contribution, not simply the money that Christianity wants, but also the power and affection, the time and influence, of all those that believe in its truth. "The spread of enlightened Voluntaryism," we will give it our plighted faith, and labour and work for its advance [loud cheers].

Dr ERS, in supporting the sentiment, said: We do not want Voluntaryism merely, but enlightened Voluntaryism: we do not want a man to be a Dissenter because his father or his grandfather was a Dissenter; but we want a man to understand the basis on which the principle is founded. When we get that law recognised which is so beautiful and so short that seven words enclose it in all its strength, "My kingdom is not of this world," not as a mere Sunday school or pulpit utterance, but as one that will work at the hustings, on the day of election, we shall accomplish the object in view [hear, hear]. We must learn that the idea of being a Voluntary

and not showing it is an absurdity. We have an abundance of Voluntaryism. We have Roebuck Voluntaryism, that would teach Ireland through priests, and take our money to pay them [hear, hear]. We have Cobden Voluntaryism, but deliver me from all such unenlightened Voluntaryism [cheers]. We want the Voluntaryism which recognises that no man ought to dare to say to another, "My creed is better than yours, and you shall pay to support it" [hear]. We should look for the day when the man who would venture to say it, will be taught that a letter ought to be procured for his admittance into an insane establishment [laughter]. We are falsely accused, when it is said that we want to overthrow this or that. All we want is, to bring people back to the simple principle which is laid down in the New Testament. If the members of the establishment will give us this principle—and we are determined to have it—we will shake hands with them. Lord John Russell tells us, that, unless some state support is given to religion, it cannot maintain itself. But the scriptures say, "Let every one that heareth, say, Come;" and, if that principle be adopted, the gospel will soon be preached throughout the world [cheers]. We are told that there are many good men in the establishment. Why are they good? Because the benevolent spirit of the men has not been overcome by the degradation of the priest. When it is said that such a man is a good bishop, I say he is a good bishop because he is a good man, and the good man has filtrated through the bishop [laughter and cheers]. I was one of those elected to the Conference, and as such signed my name on admission. Those signatures have, perhaps, been lost; but, should they ever be found, the names of the men will, a thousand years hence, be idolised as benefactors to humanity [cheers]. I know not anything more honourable than delivering Christianity from human thralldom. We want the recognition of this principle, that there is only one law on which a man can build his hopes, and that is the law of Christ. Let us learn to implant that law in our children's minds. Let us not merely talk, but act, and supply this Association with the sinews of war, that it may send forth its agents throughout the country, to the agitation of the church and state question [cheers].

Mr J. M. HARR having read a list of subscriptions,

Mr EDWARD MIALl then rose, and was received with enthusiastic cheering, accompanied by waving of hats and handkerchiefs. I am (he said) fully aware of the importance, on an occasion like the present, of observing time; and I can assure you, most unaffectedly, that, had propriety permitted, I would much rather have continued a listener, than have presented myself before you at this time as a speaker. As, however, it has been otherwise arranged, I rise to introduce to your notice the third Sentiment—a sentiment to which my whole nature, from its innermost, lowermost depths, responds Amen!—

"Consistent Dissent. May Protestant Nonconformists of every denomination understand their special mission, and faithfully discharge it."

The words which I have just read to you, present a certain idea in its positive aspect; and I shall crave your permission, to make the few observations which I may utter this evening, generally harmonious with this. The medal undoubtedly has its reverse side; but we will forget it, if you please, this evening. Inconsistent Dissent there undoubtedly is, too great plenty of it; but it would be ungenerous to suspect that the representatives of it are present in our assembly. I shall not, therefore, assail the absent, however natural and timely the temptation may appear to be to do so. I shall content myself by leaving them to their own reflections, and breathe forth my most earnest wish, on their behalf, that light may penetrate their consciences, and that the love which rejoices not in iniquity, but which rejoices in the truth, may touch and hold their hearts. The relation in which the church of Christ—the living embodiment of religious truth—should stand to the political powers of the earth, strikes me, as has already been observed by Dr Cox, as the grand problem which it is the business of this age to settle. They who look upon it as a sectarian question, do not appear to me to apprehend its true importance; and they who regard it as a minor question, can hardly have studied reverently the teachings of history, and certainly have not read aright the signs of the times. To my judgment, there never has been a more interesting problem presented to the mind of man for solution since the introduction of Christianity itself—more extensive in its reach, or profounder in its own nature, and fraught with more important consequences to society at large, than the Reformation itself. It is not rightly understood. It is not a battle of sects; it is not a controversy about doctrines; it is not a question as to the precedence of priesthoods; it leaves untouched all our differences of faith; it goes beneath them all; it interests, or should interest, all nations, all parties, all denominations, all individuals; it is truly a question for mankind; it comprehends within itself—I may say, rather, it consists of—this fundamental inquiry, Whether the mind of man, in relation to the highest walks of thought, the highest department of intelligence, shall be enslaved or free [cheers]. I contend that this is no sectarian question; I contend that the question which respects the proper method of diffusing truth throughout the world, whether by relying upon its own inherent vitality, or by employing the physical force of government—whether by argument or by coercion—whether by reason and persuasion or by statutory law—I contend that this question is not sectarian. It is a question for all men—it is a question for all ages—it is a question which as much belongs to the universal family as

though it were whether the sun should shine in the heavens by the ordinance of Divine Providence, or by the permission of civil rulers [cheers]. Nor do I think that this problem, if rightly understood, can be properly regarded as an unimportant one. I see—or, at least, I think I see—vast preparations making by Divine Providence for the ultimate settlement of this question. It is a very curious fact—and, to my mind, a strangely significant one—that all the jerks and stoppings in the political machine throughout Europe only tend to thrust this question more prominently upon public notice. The social and moral elements of force, from whatever quarter they may start, are sure to meet just that amount of antagonism that turns them into this direction. Throw what you will into the political cauldron, it comes out in an ecclesiastical shape, or, at all events, it takes a deep tinge of ecclesiastical colour [hear, hear]. Men may be very anxious to avoid this question; but they cannot give it the go-by. Those who are connected with the state, and those who are connected with the church, those who understand the working of the matter and those who are in the deepest and densest ignorance—ignorance equal to that of a member of Parliament [laughter]—all of them may be most anxious to give this question the go-by; but events are constantly occurring which will not permit it to be done. Just take the glass, and sweep the continent of Europe. In Geneva, and throughout Germany, in the cantons of Switzerland, in France itself, ay, even in Spain and in Italy, ecclesiastical questions are constantly thrusting themselves upon the notice of the people, and calling uppermost this question. In what relation should the civil ruler by right stand towards the religion of his subjects? I come to the history of our own country. That rapid, and, perhaps, too rapid, development of the Romish spirit in the bosom of the English establishment, the too early blossoming of this spirit, so that its blossoms have fallen off, and failed to produce the expected fruit; the disruption in the church of Scotland, the uneasiness of the people in Ireland, the state necessity which exists for governments to interfere, and interfere, too, in an ecclesiastical way; the events which brought about, in the season of our deepest indifference, the Factory bill, as cantharides to blister us into something like activity, and, in more recent days, the Maynooth Endowment bill—all these sprang out of necessities which no statesman could foresee, and which no statesman, acting upon aristocratic principles, could control. All these things are but the dim and inorganic expression of events. It is the duty of those who hold enlightened sentiments to interpret these events—to tell to the nation and to the people at large what they are—to read these signs in the heavens, and, if possible, imprint them upon the hearts of the people—to show that all this movement, all this agitation in the bosom of society, is because there is an element of falsehood there—unsuspected falsehood in many instances, but real and terrible falsehood, most desolating in its effects [cheers]. And, surely, if there be any one class of people who are bound in this our day—when all the machinery of Providence must operate and be moving towards this one end—to be active both in season and out of season in diffusing and declaring the truth, which they profess to hold, and which they think would be a remedy, an efficient and complete remedy, to all this shaking of the nations, that class of people is the Dissenters [cheers]. They hold, or think they hold, just and enlightened principles; they believe that, if the governments of the earth were just to confine themselves to their own business and vocation, they would be much more useful than they are. They think that the intrusion of the civil power into the sphere and domain of conscience, is as absurd in its own nature as it is impious and offensive in the sight of Heaven. They profess to have received in the Word of God a clear intimation of the mind and will of Christ, respecting the law for the maintenance of his own kingdom; and, with all this knowledge within them, and these principles recognised as their own, how is it, I ask, how can it be, that they fail to co-operate with Providence, suppress the truth, keep back their opinion, and leave the work to be done by a coming generation? [cheers]. Whenever you speak of these things to any of the Dissenters—to any serious-minded men, they will tell you they agree with you in the abstract, they agree in your principles, they agree that every individual is bound to teach that which God has put into him, that, whenever he goes abroad into society according to the dictates of the wisdom which has been planted within him, he must impress the same truth upon the mind of another that has been impressed upon his own; but they object to this organisation, simply because it is organisation; that is to say, they would have the thing done, but not done well. They would not have us concentrate our force, that we may produce the greatest possible effect by the greatest economy of means. That is the meaning of Organisation. It is combining moral force in order to the effecting of some great moral change. They agree it is the duty of individuals to seek that change, and to seek it by their own individual exertions; but we are not to seek it in the way in which every earnest man, desirous of carrying out the objects and views he entertains, must see to be most desirable. There is but one other objection to which I shall advert. There is great objection to this faithful discharge of what we regard as the mission of Dissenters at the present day, inasmuch as it may interfere with what is called Christian union. Now, let us look this steadily in the face, and do not let us be afraid. I would not give a fig either for the opinion or principles of those who are afraid to talk face to face about it. I say, that, if Christian union

can be prevented by the faithful discharge of the duty which Dissenters owe to their own principles, then the time for Christian union is not come—ought not to be considered as come. The first duty to our neighbour is, to tell him the truth which we think will do him good [hear, hear]. If men are in error, we are bound, if we believe it to be so, to warn them against the consequences of that error; and, if we must huddle up our own knowledge within our bosom, in order that we may more comfortably shake hands with our brother, then the mere shaking of hands is not worth a thought [loud applause]. Christian union, I say, with the whole Christian church; but Christian union with this full understanding, that I tell my neighbour to his face wherein I think he is wrong [cheers]—and do the utmost in my power in order to set him right; and, if he maintains a system which treads upon the neck of my liberty, and it requires a rather extraordinary exertion of moral force in order to displace him, I will exercise all Christian love, and, like the friend on board the ship, I will go to him and say, "Friend, what doest thou here?" [cheers.] If these, therefore, be our sentiments, let us be consistent. It would ill become me now to detain you by any observations upon your electoral duty. I do not like to speak upon the topic [cries of "Go on"]. But you do not know the reason why I do not like it. As the chairman intimated at the opening of the meeting, we have had our spirits warmed, and given most hearty expression to the sentiments we felt, when we were all under the mesmeric influence of association in such places as this; but, when it comes to our going forth singly and individually, in the face of all chances, and of much obloquy and scorn, aye, and the danger of letting in a Tory [immense cheers]—when it comes to this, that we throw overboard all political associations, all social convenience and accommodation, in order that we may testify before the people, in the only official manner in which we can testify, our sincere and devoted attachment to our principles, then I do think—I say it more in sorrow than in anger, for why should I be angry?—that Dissenters have miserably failed [loud cheers]. I will not prophesy, and more especially as every prophecy of evil has some tendency towards its own accomplishment. But there is a general election at hand, and I will only say, with regard to that general election, in the words of the sentiment with which I started, "Consistent Dissent. May Protestant Nonconformists, of every denomination, understand their special mission, and faithfully discharge it." [Mr Miall then resumed his seat, amid reiterated cheers from every part of the room.]

Mr W. MORTON, missionary from Calcutta, in supporting the third sentiment, said: I have a warm interest in this Association. I have been engaged in missionary operations in the east for twenty-two years, and that in connexion with two societies; for, though I am an apostolic man, I have deserted the so-called apostolic church [laughter]. Why? because I was satisfied of its injurious effects in carrying on missionary operations, and therefore left its upas-like shelter. Christianity is suspected by the natives of India, when it is presented to them by the civil power that has overturned the native institutions, and taken possession of their land, their property, and their domains [cheers]. Present Christianity in its proper attitude, and they will receive it; and, until the gospel messengers go forth uninfluenced by state principle, my experience convinces me, that Christianity will prove a failure. We have heard of political bishops, and I would remind you of one—the bishop of Calcutta. I believe him to be a good man; he loves the gospel, and he preaches it; but he has been brought up under the shelter of the establishment, and he contends, that Christianity must be presented before the Hindoo mind in the organised form of a state establishment. I heard him last week, on the platform of the Propagation Society, with which I was originally connected, utter a sentiment, which I have also heard him advance in his charges and sermons in India; viz., that it is the duty of all the true sons of the Church to agitate the public mind, till they produce a universal movement, that shall operate on the Parliament of this country, and induce them to create and send out more bishops [laughter]. He is now aiming to create a fourth bishop, under his own wing. We must, therefore, agitate, and be beforehand with him—not to prevent the diffusion of Episcopalianism in India, but to prevent them taking the money out of our pockets to pay bishop's salaries [cheers]. I have been acquainted with enlightened Hindoos, who have said, "You profess to come to teach us Christianity, and yet you put your hands into our pockets, and cause us to pay for your teaching. Let us have your teaching first, and then, if we be disposed to give you something, that is all right; but, if you take our money first, you close our hearts, and we will not receive the gospel" [hear, hear]. If it be right to become political bishops, and to speak on platforms in support of a state-church, surely it is no great crime for us to be political likewise, and to utter our honest convictions against it. If Christianity comes from heaven, it must be capable of supporting itself. When once it enters the heart, it subdues the will of man to God, and, knowing that his design is that the gospel should be extended to all mankind, the heart thus influenced will contribute to promote that end [cheers].

Mr J. BURNER, Independent minister, rose, amid loud applause, to introduce the fourth sentiment:—

"The British Anti-state-church Association. May it obtain the support which its constitution, character, and objects deserve."

Whatever may be said of resolutions generally, I

think that every one will be disposed to allow that this sentiment makes a just demand. It asks that the Association should receive only that degree of support which it deserves. Its enemies wish that it should receive that [laughter], and surely its friends will not be behind them [cheers]. In directing your attention to this sentiment, I would revert to the idea of organisation which Mr Miall has introduced this evening. This Society is feared because of its organisation. Why should the friends of Dissent be afraid of organisation in its favour, when that organisation is both lawful and scriptural? Who ever heard of the promotion of any good principle without organisation? Are principles to be diffused by anarchy [cheers]? Assuredly not. But let us see what organisation is capable of doing from what it has really done. There was an organisation of the free-traders, and what was the consequence? Many of the public prints laughed at it; many of the members of parliament sneered at it; many of the persons who professed to regard the best interests of the country, professed to be afraid of the mischief that such an organisation would be likely to effect. But that organisation went on and on, till the leading journal of the empire declared it—opening its eyes wide to its vast extent—to be "a great fact" [cheers]. When it became a great fact, even the gentlemen in the legislature who professed to be against free trade turned round upwards of 700 articles subject to duty, and made a new tariff. Does any one suppose that, but for the great fact of organisation, Sir Robert Peel would ever have gone upon the principle he has been pursuing with regard to free trade [cheers]? Organisation was got up in Ireland—it went on growing in influence and increasing in power over the people, until at last the very same politician began to veer round to it in a friendly way, and, without acknowledging it for a single moment, voted a large sum to the ecclesiastics that he thought might have the greatest influence in that organisation [cheers]. If you do not organise, other people will. If they do, they will succeed, and you will not; and, after all their organisations have succeeded, and you have been left to pay the piper, they will laugh at your simplicity [laughter and cheers]. If you go on with your organisation, increase its power, and carry with you a moral tone that will command the kind feelings of the country at large, no minister of the Crown will dare despise you, and no statesman would think of it. He will venture, while you are at your up-hill progress, to laugh at the efforts you are making; but, when you have reached the summit, and he has a full view of your numbers and strength, and sees that the spectators are surveying your array, he will begin to take measures for the purpose of meeting wishes so boldly and so manfully avowed, so peacefully and so morally and religiously sustained, so widely spread, and so deeply impressed upon the community [loud cheers]. Let us not for a moment suppose that, without such organisation we could take any successful steps in the cause in which we have been moving. But our friends have said that, by this organisation, we are giving such a prominence to our question that we shall rouse all the energies of the opposite party to put us down, and that their united strength will be too great for us. Suppose a General saw an army mustering upon the opposite heights, would he tell a few stern troops to throw down their arms, and run to their homes, or they would bring all those people upon them? Would he not rather tell them to stand to their arms, and to brace up the courage required by the superior strength before them? But it is sometimes said, that, if our system were carried out, the nation could no longer be regarded as having any religion. Are we to have, it is said, an atheistic legislature? Let us look soberly at this mighty obstruction to our movement. What are we to understand by the legislature having nothing to do with religion? I understand, a legislature making no religion; making no church; paying no church that they found ready made to their hands. Let me not be misunderstood. By the legislature having no religion, I mean a non-church-making legislature; but, if you ask me whether the 658 men of the House of Commons ought not to be religious men, I say at once, that I wish that that House were composed of such men. If you ask me whether I am ready to allow them to show their religion in legislative acts, I say, Most assuredly. Suppose a religious House of Commons were about to legislate upon any question connected with a railroad, I should say, Now, Christian men, you have rights of property to attend to; you have justice to administer; you have a good deal of intrigue to detect, a great deal of delusion before you practised on the part of interested individuals; as Christian men, do to them as you would that they should do to you. That is the way to introduce religion into legislation [cheers]. When persons say you wish to have an irreligious legislature, I say, No, you have that already. They are not religious now, just because they have no religion. They legislate about Hindooism, Catholicity, the church of England. Dissenters, and the *Regium Donum* too, so far as you will allow it [cheers]. Are these religious acts? They are not, and some of the religious men are beginning to see it. I do not regard creed-making, article-making, devotional-exercise-making, by acts of Parliament, as a religious thing [hear, hear]. It requires religious honesty in the House of Commons to adhere to integrity and truth; and, so far as these high attributes of the best legislation are concerned, we say, Give us religious men. But it may be asked, whether the legislation which we denounce has done any harm? Who will say that England, notwithstanding all its greatness and all its blessings, is, in the mass of its inhabitants, Christian? We have

had, for three hundred years, what our friends call a religious legislature, but which I call a church making—or paying, legislature; and look at our country, it still wants its Home Missionary Societies, its British schools, its National schools, our enemies being judges. The evil has been going on during this period of time, and has not been cured. There is only one more point to which I will advert in connexion with this Association: viz., it is said to stand in the way of union. My reason for not going into the practice of Union, for I have always been in the spirit, has been simply this, that if any person asks me to go and meet him as a Christian man, he must let me speak about anything and everything I please. I would go to the union, if I found there was no restriction. I am told there is not; but the man who would stand up in the union and deliver the sentiments I am now delivering here, would be understood to have violated an implied contract on the subject [a few cries of "No," drowned by loud cheers]. I say "Yes;" let any person who doubts it write to the officials, and ask whether he may go and make an anti-state-church speech, and he will get an answer in the negative directly [hear]. Some of the worthy friends connected with the union have requested that we should stay our proceedings in consequence of the Union. This is a very serious matter. Gentlemen belonging to the union may go away from it, and declare all their sentiments. They have done so. They may attend here, and say they will do it. But I am speaking of the discussion of our differences; and it is understood by everybody who understands anything about it, that it is not at all the intention of the union to enter into such discussions. I have an idea that discussion is the best way to get at union. There was a desire for union among the brethren throughout Judea and all Syria, and what did they do? They held a meeting to discuss everything that came in the way, and then afterwards circulated their decision. I have no doubt that there has been much edification, much spirituality of mind, connected with meetings of the union, and there will be more; but, when individuals connected with it, and gathering something of its spirit, tell us to put things in abeyance that we hold sacred, we tell them why we cannot do so [hear, hear]. I should say that the best mode of obtaining union is to join our organisation. No, they say, it is by leaving this and joining theirs [laughter]. If I wanted to make a union of rooms that were small and inconvenient, how should I do it? By just pulling down the partitions, and there is the union [cheers]. There is nothing between us and these gentlemen but the partitions created by the state; and, if they were to take away these partitions the union would be complete: it would start into full stature and active being at once. Now, if we are seeking to take down the partitions in a house, that all Christians may speak together, let us do it through the medium of this organisation. The sentiment recommends the Association to the support it deserves on account of its constitution, character, and objects. Its constitution is exceedingly simple. It is founded upon the principle, that all connexion between church and state is unscriptural. With regard to its character, it is composed of individuals who take this view of its principle. With regard to its object, it is simply to seek the practical carrying out of the principle which it has thus made its foundation-stone. Let us all go and endeavour to carry out this principle: it is the principle of the New Testament; the principle avowed by the Redeemer, and proclaimed by his apostles; the principle that teaches the heart to rise above the idea of state churches, and seeks that churches should be framed on the word of God alone. Whatever, therefore, our friends may think, we are satisfied that we have adopted a course consonant with the New Testament principle; and we call upon all who believe in this principle to come and help us in this high undertaking. Application will be made for contributions throughout the country; and I trust we shall all do what we can in a cause so scriptural—so calculated to unite all the people of God [loud cheers].

The CHAIRMAN, in concluding the engagements of the evening, expressed a hope that liberal contributions would be made to enable the Association to retain lecturers of high character and talent, who would travel the length and breadth of the land to expound its principles, and, by means of tracts distributed by tens of thousands, to carry simple expositions of its principles to the dwelling and intellect of every Englishman [loud cheers].

The meeting separated about a quarter past ten o'clock.

#### THE WAKEFIELD CHURCH RATE CASE.

In the Bail Court, on Saturday, before Mr Justice Patteson, Mr Barnes applied to his lordship for a rule, calling upon Mr Samuel Sharp, the vicar of Wakefield, Yorkshire, to show cause why a writ of *mandamus* should not issue commanding him to convene a vestry-meeting of the parishioners, and obtain their ultimate decision on a question relative to the making of a church-rate, and to grant a scrutiny on a poll that had already been taken relative to that question. It appeared from the statement of the learned counsel, and the affidavits on which it was founded, that, on the 10th of August last, a vestry meeting of the parish was convened by the churchwardens, for the purpose of considering the propriety of making a rate for the repair of two churches, viz., the old parish church of Wakefield, and another that was subsequently built under the provisions of the 38th George III. The meeting accordingly took place on the day appointed (the 14th of August), when it was proposed by the parochial authorities to make a rate of one penny in the pound

for the above purpose, on which it was moved, by way of amendment, that the vestry should be adjourned for twelve months. A show of hands was taken, and ultimately a poll was demanded, which commenced on the 18th of August, and continued until the 2nd of September, and on the close of the poll the vicar declared the numbers to be:—In favour of the rate, 2,376; against it, 2,361; majority in favour of it, 15. It was sworn, too, in the affidavit that during the progress of the poll the vicar had not obtained any legal assistance, although legal gentlemen were engaged by the parties on both sides, and that when objections were taken to certain votes, the vicar made a memorandum of them, and then gave his decision, remarking that he was no lawyer, and that if his decision was wrong, it could be set right another day, as at the close of the poll the scrutators would inquire into the whole matter; but he afterwards refused to submit the poll books to a scrutiny. The learned counsel said that evidence was ready to prove that one hundred and fifteen votes taken on the occasion, and which had been received by the vicar, were undoubtedly bad ones; and that forty-one votes which were clearly good ones, had been rejected by him; those votes were tendered against the rate.

His lordship granted a rule to show cause.

**ANTI-STATE-CHURCH MOVEMENT.**—We are glad to learn that a deputation from the British Anti-state-church Association is about to visit Newcastle, to agitate the increasingly important question of the connexion between the church and the state. The deputies are the Rev. Messrs Forster, of London, and Mursell, of Leicester, both able and accomplished advocates of the voluntary principle.—*Leeds Times*.

**NORTHAMPTON.**—On Tuesday, the 18th instant, a lecture was delivered by the Rev. W. Forster, in behalf of the above association, in the Baptist meeting-house, Northampton. Though a public meeting had been held in the same place a few months ago, yet the attendance at the lecture was much larger than on that occasion. The utmost attention was paid to the arguments of the lecturer in favour of the aggressive policy of the anti-state-church movement, and a deep impression of its wisdom and efficiency to assert the authority and extend the kingdom of the Lord Jesus, was produced. After the lecture, D'Arcy Irvine, Esq., who has undertaken to visit the towns with the deputations, laid before the meeting the financial affairs of the Association, and urged them to aid in sustaining its funds.

**KETTERING.**—On Wednesday, the 19th, a meeting was held in the Baptist meeting-house, on behalf of the Anti-state-church Association. The chair was taken by Mr Robinson, the minister of the place, and the assembly, which was numerous, though not crowded, addressed by Mr W. Forster, Independent minister, of Highgate; Mr John Clarke, of Jamaica, minister; D'Arcy Irvine, Esq.; Mr W. May, of Burton Latimer, minister; and Mr J. P. Mursell, Baptist minister, of Leicester. The interest of the meeting, keen at its commencement, seemed to deepen till its close, and a decided impulse has been given to the cause which was so ably and wisely advocated.

**MARKET HARBOUROUGH.**—On Thursday, the 20th, the Rev. W. Forster delivered a lecture in favour of the Anti-state-church Association, in the Congregational meeting-house, Market Harborough. The assembly was larger than was expected, as the claims of the society had not before been laid before the Dissenters of that town, by any deputation from the executive committee. There appeared to be a lively interest excited in behalf of the movement against the system of state churches, and the feeling existing in this town is another among the many instances which show, that the Anti-state-church Association is winning its way slowly but surely into the confidence of the sound and consistent portion of Dissenters.

**CHURCH-RATES, ST ALBANS.**—At the borough petty sessions, on Friday last, the Rev. J. Harris, Mr Thomas Harris, Mr Whitbread, and Mr J. Hulk, were summoned by the churchwardens of the Abbey parish, to show cause why they refused to pay a church-rate. The objections which they have to the legality of the rate are about thirty in number, one of which is, that the expense of repairing the chimneys of the Abbey church was defrayed out of the amount collected by the churchwardens. Irrespective of this the summonses were informal; but the magistrates, overruling the objections, determined to issue distress warrants in each case. Whether they will be put in force time will prove; but we are assured that, in the event of any hostile steps being resorted to, an appeal will be made to the highest tribunal.—*Hertford Mercury*.

**THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN AMERICA.**—A number of the most intelligent and influential adherents to the Catholic faith, in Cincinnati, have associated themselves together for the purpose of worshipping the God of their fathers according to the form and ceremonial of the ancient creed, but in perfect independence of the Papal see, and of all the dignitaries generally recognised in the United States by the professors of that faith in the United States.

**MORE SECESSIONS TO ROME.**—Several members of the congregation of the Rev. W. U. Richards, successor to Mr Oakeley, minister of Margaret-street Chapel, have recently entered the Church of Rome. We may add, that among the more recent converts to Popery, is Mr Capes, a brother of the ex-rev. gentleman who had passed from the ministry at Bridgewater to mathematics at Prior-park. The Rev. Frederick William Faber, M.A., late fellow of University college, and rector of Elton, Huntingdonshire, joined the Roman communion, together with

eight others (names unknown), at Northampton, on Thursday se'nnight. Mr Faber, who is the author of poems dedicated to Lord John Manners, was presented to Elton in 1843, at which time his Romanising views were matter of notoriety. It is confidently stated that a great many more secessions are about to take place. We announce with the greatest regret, and upon authority which, though we cannot name, we consider indisputable, that one of the chaplains of the Bishop of London is on the point of being admitted into the Romish Church! Surely such an event as this will make our too indulgent diocesan at length exclaim—"Non omnibus dormio!"—*Church and State Gazette*.

**CHURCH RATES AT CHELTENHAM.**—The polling for the parish of St Paul, Cheltenham, which was postponed for a fortnight, was brought to a close on Monday week. Notwithstanding the extraordinary efforts of the church party, there was a majority of 431 against the rate. When it was announced from the committee room, says the *Free Press*, that a majority of more than 400 persons had polled against the rate, the shouts from the assembled multitude without, convincingly demonstrated the popular feeling upon this question.

**MURRAIN AMONGST THE FRUIT.**—We are sorry to learn that the murrain, or something like it, has made its appearance among both the foreign and home grown fruits. It is said to be quite evident that the apples and pears will not keep this year, as the rot is making great and rapid havoc among them. The fruit dealers, like the potato merchants, are hurrying their stocks to market.—*Greenock Advertiser*.

**SEVERE FROST.**—On Thursday morning week, so severe was the frost, that Lochfine, at Inverary, was covered over a large portion of its surface with ice. The ferry steamer, in crossing from Inverary to St Catharine's, passed through a sheet more than half a mile in extent, which cracked and broke with a great noise as the boat passed through.—*Greenock Advertiser*.

**THE PREMIER'S FAMILY.**—There is little doubt but that, when Sir R. Peel retires from public life, it will be with a peerage. In the meantime he is forming an extensive connexion with the aristocracy of the land. His eldest daughter (Viscountess Villiers) will be the Countess of Jersey, should her husband and she survive the present earl; and it is now said that his second daughter is about to be married to the Marquis of Hertford. The marquis is on all hands highly spoken of, and is accounted to be a man altogether different from his father, of no very estimable memory.—*London Correspondent of Glasgow Argus*.

**ASTONISHING RECOVERY OF ANIMATION BY GALVANISM.**—On Monday evening last, a person residing at Ferrybridge, a potter by trade, came home intoxicated, and abused and ill-treated his wife, as he had done on many former occasions. Being a nervous person, she could not endure this treatment, and resolved to leave him, and ran out in a state of nudity; not having returned at the expiration of a long time, the neighbours went in search of her. After examining all probable houses and places where she was thought to be without success, it was deemed proper to drag the canal, some thinking she might have jumped in there; but in the mean time one of the party found her behind a building, to all appearance dead from starvation. She was carried into the house, and Mr P. Atkinson, surgeon, was sent for, who used and administered every proper means to restore her, but of no avail, life appearing extinct. After nearly three hours' exertions in chafing the body, applying warm flannels, &c., Mr A. sent for Mr Charter (late of Kirkbymoorside), schoolmaster, requesting him to bring his powerful galvanic Bach-offner's machine, which he had just constructed. This was very soon put in readiness with one of Daniel's sustaining batteries, and taken to the patient's house, who still remained inanimate. The machine was promptly applied, and in eight or ten seconds signs of life were apparent. After passing two shocks through the body, from the right to the left breast, the lungs began to heave, the heart and pulse began to beat, and to the astonishment and gratification of a number of witnesses, she exclaimed, "What are you doing? where am I?" Another slight shock was given, when she was enabled to sit upright; sickness followed, and animation was completely restored. She is now fast recovering.—*York Courant*.

**MR VINCENT'S LECTURES.**—ALEXANDRIA, VALE OF LEVEN.—Henry Vincent, Esq., arrived at this place on Monday, and at night delivered his first lecture in the Free Church, to a very large audience; Mr Kinloch, manufacturer, in the chair. Mr Vincent's address, chiefly illustrative of the moral and intellectual evils of society, and the importance of the temperance principle as a means of grappling with these evils, was hailed with loud cheers throughout. On Tuesday night, Mr Vincent lectured on the domestic condition of the people and on the elements necessary to make home happy—on the influence of woman in this great work. The church was crowded in every part by a most respectable audience. We never witnessed greater interest than this meeting evinced as Mr Vincent proceeded with his important address, and the appeals he made to the youth of both sexes were calculated to rouse them to that feeling of self-respect which lies at the foundation of all improvement. At the conclusion, the meeting testified its approbation by loud and continued cheers.—*Glasgow Examiner*.

**THE REV. THOMAS SPENCER**, rector of Hinton, near Bath, is in the United States.

## Correspondence.

### CHRISTIAN UNION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Nov. 21, 1845.

SIR—In perusing your paper from week to week, I have been disappointed in not finding any sentiment expressed on the subject which now, more than any other, engrosses public attention, viz., Christian Union; it is my intention to lay before you, with your permission, a few straggling thoughts on the subject.

Much as I value "Christian Union," it is my opinion, that in the existing state of things it is a mere chimera of the imagination, because impracticable; and impracticable for this reason, that there is not equality in the circumstances of the Unionists; for how can any man reasonably expect me to co-operate with him in any object, however laudable and praiseworthy it may be, while he is compelling me, against all justice and reason, to remunerate him for performing services which in my heart I detest and my conscience condemns? And is not this the case with the Episcopalian and Dissenter? The former is to-day calling upon the latter to unite with him in staying the progress of Popery and Tractarianism, and to-morrow calling upon him for payment. Payment of what? it is reasonably asked. Why, nothing less than a church rate, tithe, Easter offering, &c. Yes, it may well be proposed, for a certain hostile society of truth-telling and truth-seeking individuals, to suspend operations for twelve months, against the hydra-headed concentration of every system of imposition and oppression; and for what? To promote Christian Union.

Again: while Episcopalianism is the establishment of the country, it is impossible; for while it is accounted "the church" by eminence—that is, the church of the state and of the aristocracy of the land—will her ministers condescend (if I may use the term) to look down upon the humble preachers of the Dissenting conventicle? The pride of the human heart echoes the word "impossible" in accents too plain and too loud to be misunderstood. Superiority may, indeed, be suppressed for the time, to gain our assistance; but intolerance will after resume her throne; as in the case of the Emancipation bill, when the Dissenters co-operated with O'Connell and the Catholics; and now, what is their gratitude? The warmest, yea, hottest vituperation that Irish declamation can pour forth. And will it not be so in this case? The progress of Popery and Tractarianism once stayed—or, in other words, the end of Union gained—the Episcopalian turns his back upon the Dissenter, and tells him, "I have no more need of you." It is impossible for them to unite, if Dissenters really believe that "Christ's kingdom is not of this world," while the Episcopalian considers it an essential element of his principles and creed, that the church must be incorporated with, and be supervised by, the state; while, then, these opposing elements exist as the very essentials of their different creeds, it is as useless to hope for permanent Union as that the polar extremities of our earth may be united.

Trusting you will excuse these crude remarks, and hoping soon to see something in the pages of the *Nonconformist* on this, at present, engrossing subject,

I subscribe myself, yours, &c.,  
A DISSENTER.

### A SUSTENTATION FUND.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR—Your correspondent, "A Watcher of Signs," whose letter of inquiries appeared in your paper of the 5th inst., deserves rather more than a passing notice. He has touched a chord of the national Dissenting necessity, and, therefore, of its sympathy. The theme is worthy of your own pen. The subject demands the fullest consideration. Your correspondent says that ideas are entertained in certain quarters "of a sustentation fund, by which a minimum of £100 should be ensured to every recognised Congregational minister." He asks, in reference to this proposal, 1st. What is the price? 2nd. Is all this gratuitous? 3rd. Is it another step towards Presbyterianism? And, 4th. Has the failure of J.A. James's project suggested this new move?

Now, sir, I will claim permission to avow myself a believer in the desirableness, the usefulness, the safety, and the practicability of this scheme as applied to the Congregational body. I will not say that it is our duty to provide a certain sum for all our ministers; all that I have now asserted amounts to this—it would be wise to do so; and, if our rich ministers—our London ministers, with a few provincial stars—could be made to agree in the plan, I believe it to be not merely desirable but practicable. I think, sir, it is high time that we abandon that weak device—that old trick of the enemy—of voting for the Whigs just to keep the Tories out. The hollow-ness of this policy has been clearly shown in many recent instances, and I am sure you would be the last man to counsel a policy which had no better recommendation than this. It cannot be that there is nothing commendable in the system of our northern friends: and if their sustentation scheme is a good one, then I say, let us adopt it. Don't let us run away under the influence of the inquiry, "Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?" Rather let us, in imitation of the early disciple, "Come and see."

Your correspondent allows that the suggestion is a benevolent one, but seems unwilling to be identified with it; on the contrary, he speaks in a very cold and unfeeling manner of "many worthy ministers being greatly in need, who would hail such a sum as a providential deliverance from pecuniary distress." I will take the liberty to ask your correspondent whether he has a family, and whether he is able to bring up his children respectably on £100 a year, or less? I fear, sir, that his sympathies are not in unison with our poor ministers.

Your correspondent puts to you his four interrogatories, which I have already transcribed. He allows the benevolence which dictates the idea of a sustentation fund, but is afraid that some unheard-of calamity will follow in its benevolent walks. He asks, what is the price? by which I understand him to mean, what sacrifice of principle will it involve? I answer, None whatever. Could not two churches agree to make common cause against the common enemy, and unite their efforts for the promotion of the common salvation? and, if two, why not two hundred? I know of no difficulty, but what sin has occasioned; and which, by God's grace,

may be overcome. His second inquiry I do not profess to understand, and cannot, therefore, I fear, offer any remarks which may prove for his or your benefit: "Is all this gratuitous?" Benevolence, according to Johnson, implies the disposition to do good, kindness; compulsory benevolence, I suppose, is a contradiction in terms. Does our friend inquire whether benevolence is gratuitous? Or does he mean to take up other ground, and insinuate that the suggestion thrown out is not really benevolent, but a mere cloak to cover some base design? And having, in his own opinion, got hold of the true idea, the thing really intended and sought after, and to obtain which the cloak of benevolence has been deceitfully employed, our "Sign Watcher" pops his third question, "Is it another step towards Presbyterianism?" According to our friend, this is a thing unquestionably to be avoided. Whatever Presbyterianism is, it ought not to be approached. Now, dear sir, it would be entirely beside my purpose to open any question of the kind in your columns, even if you would allow me. I take it as a settled point that you are a conscientious Congregationalist; and that in those methods of discipline, wherein you differ from Presbyterianism, you do so on enlightened grounds. But I am sure that you are not to be frightened out of your propriety by the bugbear of "Church in danger!" You will not object to the sustentation scheme on the ground of its having been adopted by the Presbyterians. On the contrary, if it has been productive of good results in one free religious community, you will agree with me that, if no principle of our system be violated, it may do good among Congregationalists in England. Let me here remark that a sustentation scheme is not peculiar to Presbyterianism; nay, it was only the other day that a single division of the many Presbyterian bodies in the country adopted the plan, being led to it, no doubt, from the success of the long-tried system adopted by the Wesleyans. In opposition to our "Sign Watcher," I hold that that scheme cannot be a bad one, which, without trenching on the liberty of the churches, will secure a minimum of £100 a year to each of our ministers. When our friends from Scotland appeared among us, pleading for their infant church, just escaped from the trammels of state thralldom, they were well received; and, I believe, they are grateful for the sympathy shown them; but no part of their case met with more sympathy—no statement was more applauded by the listening crowds than this—that they were to have a common fund for the ministers; in other words, that they should be all provided for, the rich helping the poor, the cities contributing to supplement the deficiencies of the country districts—what was wanting in one district, either of population or wealth, being compensated by the abundance of their more populous and wealthy neighbours; so that all might be raised, not only above poverty, but be able to maintain their rightful position of an entire equality of status among themselves, and a fitting relation to the other religious bodies of the country. I say, that this sentiment was very greatly applauded by the public, and I believe that it is really popular. I believe the best of our people agree with the sentiment. I believe that our enemies would fear nothing so much among the Dissenting community of England, as a thoroughly respectable sustentation fund. Nothing would tend more to elevate the body to its rightful position of influence in the country. How many of our ministers are not merely without respect and influence, but absolutely paupers? How very discreditable for us to have all sorts of schemes and devices for raising money to bestow, in some way or other, in charity on poor ministers, aged ministers, their widows, their sons, &c. Why should not the churches arise and do justice to their ministers; and, instead of allowing them to be made paupers, let them be elevated to a position to care for themselves, and provide for their children, without abstracting the legitimate profits of mere business speculations, or otherwise being placed in the humiliating position of receiving that, as a donation, which they are entitled to as ministers of the gospel? Sir, our body will never be respected as it ought to be, until we learn to respect ourselves; and so long as we are chargeable with having our house in such disorder, and not providing for our own household in a becoming manner, we need not be surprised if the finger of scorn should continue to be pointed at us by the interested upholders of state churches.

I have not time to remark on the other parts of my friend's letter, nor is it necessary. The subject is large—it is important—and I trust it will increasingly obtain the attention it deserves. Our present divided, distracted, weakened, and, shall I say it, despised state, is greatly owing to our own diseased condition. Let us awaken to our duties and responsibilities; and, wherever there is good to be got, let us gratefully accept it, and practically use it.

I am, dear sir, yours, &c.,  
Peckham, Nov. 17, 1845. OBSERVER.

**FALL OF CAXTON'S HOUSE IN THE ALMONRY, WESTMINSTER.**—On Thursday last the house in the Almonry, adjoining Westminster abbey, in which Caxton resided, and where he printed the first book in this country, fell down with a tremendous crash, to the great consternation of the inhabitants of the neighbouring brothels. The concussion was so great as to cause the crockery in the brothels opposite to fall off the shelves; and, the windows being open, those wretched houses were filled with dust, which disabled the inhabitants from seeing the cause, and increased their alarm. All the brothels on the opposite side (the south side) of the Almonry are still standing, and are still thronged with wretched women, pursuing their customary disgusting avocations as diligently as ever, notwithstanding the "Right Rev. Father in God the Lord Bishop's" solemn declaration in the House of Lords, more than two years ago, that they were all pulled down. There they are, crowded with inmates in the most disgusting state. Drunkenness, disease, crime, filth, are rampant.—*Correspondent of the Patriot.*

**WORTHY OF IMITATION.**—A few days since, Edward Dawson, Esq., of Whotton House, called together the allotment tenants on his estates, and announced to them his intention of returning the whole of their last year's rent, in consequence of the failure of the potato crop.

### CHARGE OF THREE MURDERS.

It having transpired, that Johnstone, the master of the *Tory*, who the week before last made such an extraordinary charge of mutiny against most of his crew, was making preparations to quit the country, he was taken into custody on Monday.

On Tuesday, he was brought before the magistrate at the Thames Police-office, and charged with the wilful murder of Thomas Reason, a seaman. The prisoner is a native of Scotland, and said to be respectably connected. He is rather above the middle size, thirty-five years of age, of florid complexion, and rather sunburnt. He is a man of reckless appearance and manners, and seemed to treat the serious charge against him with indifference. The only witness examined was Flower, one of the ship's apprentices. Reason died one night, in the cabin; on that night the boy heard him call out, "Spare me, captain, spare me!" He went into the cabin shortly after hearing these exclamations—"I saw Reason, who appeared to be in a dying state. I saw the captain examining a wound in his left breast. I saw blood flowing from the wound. The captain had a bayonet in his hand. There were two other wounds, one on his temple, the other on his forehead; they were fresh wounds, and bleeding profusely. Reason died about ten minutes after that. I was present when he expired." The prisoner was remanded till the next day.

On Wednesday, the fifteen men charged with mutiny were brought up for re-examination. Mr. Clarkson announced that Mr. Gibb, the owner of the *Tory*, was induced by the information which had been elicited to withdraw the accusation on his part against the seamen. The magistrate, Mr. Broderip, declared that the only evidence against the prisoners was that of the captain, which was of such a nature as not to warrant their detention; he, therefore, discharged them. A loud cheer invaded the decorum of the court at this announcement.

George Johnstone, the master, was then more formally charged with three murders—that of William Rambert, the chief mate; that of William Mars, second mate; and that of Thomas Reason, able seaman. A surgeon stated that the prisoner was suffering from an erysipelatous inflammation of the leg, caused by a punctured wound; so he was allowed to be seated. Two witnesses, both ship's apprentices, were examined. Slack declared that Mars was placed in irons by the captain; who then struck him on the head with a cutlass, inflicting a severe wound; within less than an hour he again struck at the man, wounding him on the head and hands. Mars was so weak that he could not stand. The master ordered some of the crew to pass a rope round the mate's body and squeeze him! They did so, horribly torturing the dying man. He expired soon after, and his body was committed to the sea. Witness saw Reason after he was dead: blood had flowed from his side, and a rug which covered him was stained with blood. The man was wounded in the forehead while the captain was striking Mars. Spence, an intelligent young man, stated, that there was some discontent on board the ship on its arrival at Ascension; one of the crew reported to the master that the seamen had threatened him, and Johnstone was greatly excited. On the 25th September, he saw the master standing over Rambert with a cutlass in his hand, the chief mate praying his forgiveness; on the following day, Rambert was struck by the captain. The same witness saw Johnstone shake Reason. Mars was repeatedly slashed with a cutlass; he was greatly mutilated. When he fell through weakness, the crew were ordered to prick him with a bayonet, to make him stand!

The prisoner having declined to make any defence at present, he was remanded till Tuesday next.

**EXTENSIVE CONFLAGRATION NEAR NOTTINGHAM.**—On Thursday night another fire, making the fourth within the short space of one month, broke out in this neighbourhood, under circumstances warranting a strong suspicion of incendiarism. Between nine and ten o'clock a glare of light was seen for many miles around in the direction of Beeston, three miles from the town, and it was soon ascertained that a large stackyard, situate in the centre of the above village, was on fire. At half-past eight o'clock Mr. Joseph Walker, farmer, of Beeston, the owner of the stacks, had walked by his stackyard, and seen all safe. In ten minutes after, a neighbour observed flames bursting out of a dill stack, and gave an alarm; in less than another quarter of an hour eight or nine of the stacks were on fire, owing, no doubt, to a brisk west wind which was blowing at the time directly upon them. The damage is estimated at upwards of £1,000.

**PRICE OF BREAD.**—On Thursday, the price of bread, which was last week reduced to 6½d. per quartern loaf at the eastern part of the metropolis, was raised to 7d.

**BONE CRUSHING.**—At the last weekly meeting of the Board of Guardians of the Andover Union a communication from the Poor Law Commissioners was read, authorising the discontinuance of any such employment if it existed. Of course a similar order has been sent to all the unions in the kingdom. This result of the exposures made by the *Times* and other organs of the press proves that the poor law triumvirate of Somerset House, however arbitrary and absolute their powers may be, are not entirely independent of, or uninfluenced by, public opinion. The Poor Law Commissioners have also refused their sanction to the suspension of Mr. Westlake, the medical officer, on the ground that there was nothing in his conduct to deserve censure, still less dismissal.

**A RIVAL TO MR. O'CONNELL.**—A miscreant, in the dress, and assuming the appearance of a "Lay Brother," took up his station in front of Clarendon-street chapel, on Sunday last, armed with a plate for the reception of the "tribute;" and, being more eloquent in action, for he uttered no sound, and more active in his motions, for he was the first to approach every new comer, than his associates, it was soon manifest, by the appearance of his platter, that success attended his mission of charity and love. Envy was generated in the minds of some of the rival collectors; and, whether to satisfy an idle curiosity, or with a view of emulating the example set, one of them asked the name of the ward which boasted of so zealous an agent? The "Lay Brother" coolly replied, "that he did not appear there in a representative capacity, having a wholesome horror of the provisions of the 'Convention act,'" before his eyes, that he was "collecting on his own account;" and, "suited the action to the word," he instantly emptied the contents of the plate into the capacious side-pocket of a long black surtout, and bid defiance to the threats of those by whom he was surrounded, and who appeared shocked at his blasphemous exemption of the "church appropriation clause" thus reduced to practice. Straightway the "miscreant" was dragged off to the head police office, whence he was transmitted for examination to the magistrates in College street; Clarendon chapel (where the alleged robbery had been committed) being in that division. On being brought up, Mr. Tyndall, the sitting magistrate, asked, "Who is the prosecutor in this case, and what is the nature of the charge?" Some hesitation having been evinced, the prisoner took advantage of the silence, and became on the instant his own prosecutor, and with all the simplicity and all the force of truth preferred the following charge against himself:—"Please your worship, I wanted a few pounds for a particular purpose; and not choosing to work, and not being inclined to earn it, I thought it would be a very handy way just to go and hold a plate at Clarendon-street chapel and collect it for myself from such as were willing to give it voluntarily. The people were very kind and very good. I made no misrepresentation, nor any representation at all—having never opened my lips. What I got I put in my pocket, and there it is this moment. I had as good a right to collect a trifle for myself, as the others had to collect for themselves, or for Mr. O'Connell, or Mr. Anybody else; and I contend for it that I committed no crime whatsoever." Mr. Tyndall having asked the parties who brought the "miscreant" into custody what they had to say to the statement he had made, and they admitting that his story was perfectly true, the worthy alderman declared that he had no jurisdiction in the matter, for that no violation of the law had been committed, and that therefore the man must be discharged. And the money? He must keep that too, continued the worthy alderman (all aldermen are "worthy" by courtesy), unless some one proves a legal right to it. No such right being proven, the "miscreant" walked off scot free, with the trifle of change in his pocket. There's no use in "bell, book, and candlelight," if this fellow don't catch it. We beg to assure our readers that the case is literally true in every particular.—*Dublin Evening Mail.*

**FRIGHTFUL RESULT OF A PRACTICAL JOKE.**—A shocking occurrence lately took place in the vicinity of Perth. The well-known courage and naturally dauntless temperament of a young nobleman of that country had stimulated some of his companions to put him to the proof in various ways. He was himself aware of their designs against his hardihood, and readily joined in the sport so far as to give them free permission to test his intrepidity by either natural or supernatural means. Every scheme, however, proved abortive, and the attempt was apparently and, as the young hero believed, really relinquished as hopeless. But, after the lapse of some weeks, it unfortunately became again the subject of discussion, and one of the thoughtless youths, his ingenuity stimulated by a considerable wager, resolved once more to subject his friend's strength of mind to a new trial. Having bribed his valet to admit him into the bedchamber of the wholly unsuspecting youth, his first care was to withdraw the bullets from a brace of pistols suspended at the head of the bed, under which he then crept, to await the arrival of his companion, who, returning home at his usual hour, went to bed and fell asleep. The concealed plotter stole cautiously forth, wrapped himself in a white coverlet, and standing at his full height at the foot of the couch, began to jerk the sheet in which the sleeper lay; he awoke, saw the tall white figure, and calling out, "What humbug are you about now?" turned himself round again to sleep. The sheet jerking was, however, renewed, and the youth, tormented out of his good temper, exclaimed, "Begone, foolish fellow, or I will shoot you!" Still the white figure neither spoke nor moved away, but continued pulling at the bed-clothes as before. Either alarmed or angry the young nobleman got up, seized one of his pistols, and fired right at the motionless figure, and the bullet was rolled back harmless on the coverlet! Amazed, he discharged the other pistol; the gaunt silent figure tossed the second bullet towards him! A horrible conviction of an unearthly visitor being before him probably seized his imagination, and the fine promising youth fell back upon his couch a corpse! A cerebral paralysis had deprived him instantaneously of life.

**THE "MORNING POST" AND THE RUNAWAY MATCH.**—This mirror of aristocratic life and movements was at the pains to send "commissioners" from London to Edinburgh *via* Gretna Green, and for no other object but to gather all the particulars, real or imaginary, connected with the late elopement from Brighton. The details of this wretched garbage occupied three columns of close type.

BERLIN, Nov. 16.—The high price of all articles of provision excites serious apprehensions, and has already led to several petitions to the government. —*Journal de Frankfort*, Nov. 22.

EARLIER CLOSING OF SHOPS.—We learn with pleasure that the drapers have evinced a desire to accede to the request of their assistants, to close their shops at seven o'clock in the evening from the 12th of October in each year, to the 12th of March, and that a petition to that effect, from the assistants and apprentices, is in course of signature. The movement, we hear, has extended to other tradesmen, and is likely to succeed.—*Notts Review*.—We have much pleasure in stating that an association to promote the early closing of shops has been formed in this city.—*Western Times*.

THE NEW DEAN OF CANTERBURY.—Sir Robert Peel has bestowed the vacant deanery at Canterbury on the Rev. Wm. Rowe Lyall, archdeacon of Maidstone, and brother, we believe, of the member for the City of London.

MODERN EXPEDITION.—A gentleman did business on the Corn Exchange, Brunswick street, on the 19th October, and sailed the same day in the *Caledonia*. He arrived at Boston, purchased a cargo of flour, shipped it, and returned in the *Great Western*. On Friday, he went to the Corn Exchange, sold the cargo, and in the course of the day, the *Joshua Bates*, containing the flour, arrived, after the quick passage of fifteen days, from Boston. —*Liverpool Albion*.

The will of the late Earl Grey was proved in the Consistory Court of Durham on the 18th instant, by the present Earl, the sole executor. The personal effects in the diocese of Durham were sworn under £30,000.—*Newcastle Chronicle*.

ARRIVAL OF DR JUDSON IN AMERICA.—This venerable missionary arrived at Boston on the 15th inst., after an absence of thirty-three years from his native land. He hopes to return to his missionary labours in Burmah.

THE MILITIA.—A report has been for some days current, of an intention, on the part of her Majesty's government, not to rely so fully as it has hitherto done upon the Chelsea pensioners, in case of any occasion for their services, but to call out the militia for a short period of training. It is said, that the expediency of forming a better school of recruits for the army will be put forward as the ground for this measure.—*Times*.—Her Majesty's government have already issued orders for 42,000 sets of accoutrements for the English counties, the whole to be ready by the 1st of March next. No orders, at present, have been given with respect to the Scotch and Irish forces.

TO THE POOR ON POTATOES.—The following is a copy of a hand-bill which has been extensively circulated in the north of Derbyshire:—"Before you cook your potatoes, cut off the crown with as many eyes as you can, and preserve it for planting. Cut away the diseased potatoes separate, and look them over frequently. Plant all your small potatoes now whole in the same way you do in spring, only deeper, to be protected from the frost, but use no manure. Be careful to let your potatoes be perfectly dry previous to storing them."

FLOGGING AND IMPRISONMENT IN THE ARMY AND NAVY.—It appears, by parliamentary papers, that in the five years 1839 to 1843 inclusive, flogging in the army and navy was inflicted on the British soldiers, seamen, and marines in fourteen thousand eight hundred and thirteen cases, being at the rate of two hundred and forty-six cases of corporal punishment in every month of the aforesaid period. It further appears by the same document, that there were forty-one thousand three hundred and sixty-three commitments of soldiers to prison, being at the rate of six hundred and eighty-nine commitments per month, during the five years aforesaid. And also that the above account is exclusive of the number of soldiers flogged or imprisoned in five of the Queen's regiments stationed abroad, from which no returns have been received.—*See Parliamentary Paper*, No. 308, Sess. 1845.

THE AMAZING CARELESSNESS OF COLLIERIES.—It was Professor Faraday, we think, who amused the British Association by stating that when he was in the Haswell pit, observing the preparations for a blast, and holding a candle in his hand, he inquired, "Where is your gunpowder?" when a collier coolly answered, "You are sitting upon it, sir." A still grosser act of incaution, and, unhappily, disastrous in its consequences, may now be recorded. Two pitmen, named Dickinson and Crozer, were last week "decanting" some gunpowder, and one of them was smoking his pipe at the time. The powder exploded, the men were blown up by the blast, and they are now totally blind.—*Gateshead Observer*.

PEACE QUESTION.—The peace question is likely to be taken up in Boston with considerable spirit; it having been resolved, at a meeting of ministers and gentlemen of different denominations, that Mr Stokes, the agent of the London Peace Society, now in this district, shall have varied opportunities of developing the principles and objects of that philanthropic institution. On Sunday morning, there will be a sermon in the General Baptist chapel; and on Sunday afternoon, the various Sunday-schools are to meet in the spacious Wesleyan Centenary chapel, when they will be addressed by Mr Stokes—who is also to preach in Grove-street chapel in the evening. A public meeting will be held on Tuesday evening, in the Town-hall. It is a pleasing reflection, that the principles of this society are silently but extensively diffusing themselves, both in this and other countries.—*Stamford Mercury*.

### Postscript.

Wednesday, November 29th.

#### LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S ABANDONMENT OF A FIXED DUTY.

The noble member for London has at length declared himself unreservedly in favour of an unconditional repeal of the corn laws. This decision is made known in an address to his constituents of the city of London. After detailing the several efforts at a compromise, made during the last few years, he declares that compromise is now at an end. He confesses that he has been mistaken in his estimate of the effects of a limited protection:—

I used to be of opinion that corn was an exception to the general rules of political economy; but observation and experience have convinced me that we ought to abstain from all interference with the supply of food. Neither a government nor a legislature can ever regulate the corn market with the beneficial effects which the entire freedom of sale and purchase are sure of themselves to produce.

Any further attempts at compromise are now useless, and positively injurious to the aristocracy:—

The result of resistance to qualified concessions must be the same in the present instance as in those I have mentioned. It is no longer worth while to contend for a fixed duty. In 1841 the free-trade party would have agreed to a duty of 8s. a quarter on wheat, and after a lapse of years this duty might have been further reduced, and ultimately abolished. But the imposition of any duty at present, without a provision for its extinction within a short period, would but prolong a contest already sufficiently fruitful of animosity and discontent. The struggle to make bread scarce and dear, when it is clear that part, at least, of the additional price goes to increase rent, is a struggle deeply injurious to an aristocracy which (this quarrel once removed) is strong in property, strong in the construction of our legislature, strong in opinion, strong in ancient associations, and the memory of immortal services.

But the noble lord goes further, and advises increased and universal agitation:—

Let us, then, unite to put an end to a system which has been proved to be the blight of commerce, the bane of agriculture, the source of bitter divisions among classes, the cause of penury, fever, mortality, and crime among the people.

But if this end is to be achieved, it must be gained by the unequivocal expression of the public voice. . . . The government appear to be waiting for some excuse to give up the present corn law. Let the people, by petition, by address, by remonstrance, afford them the excuse they seek.

### IRELAND.

THE POTATO DISEASE.—Further accounts received in Dublin on Monday, confirm those which have already appeared, respecting the formidable ravages of the potato blight; but some of the reports, from parts of Waterford and other counties, state that the disease had apparently ceased. At the meeting of the Mansion-house committee, the Lord Mayor, who had been requested to inform Sir Thomas Fremantle that the committee were ready to place at the disposal of the government the information hitherto received by them, reported that the government would be glad to receive any information which the committee deemed important, and that the government was taking the most active measures to prepare for whatever emergency might arise.

THE NEW IRISH COLLEGES.—It is now announced, upon authority, that Mr Berwick, nephew of Grattan, of illustrious memory, has really been appointed vice-president of the Galway college. Another Catholic priest has been appointed to a professorship in the same college. It will be recollected that Dr Kirwin, a Roman Catholic clergyman, was lately appointed by government principal of this college. The *Galway Vindicator* now says—"It is rumoured, on good authority, that our esteemed and exemplary townsman, the Rev. Dr O'Toole, principal of St Mary's college, Galway, will be appointed to one of the head professorships in our new provincial college."

REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—At the weekly meeting at the Conciliation Hall (what a misnomer is this name now!) Mr Alexander McCarthy, the repeal candidate for the representation of Cork, was placed in the chair. Mr Broderick moved the resolution brought forward at the last meeting:—

"That the parliamentary committee of the Association be instructed to consider and report, whether the inquiries connected with legislation for Irish railways which now take place in London, before committees of the House of Commons, may not hereafter be conducted in Dublin with great saving of expense to the country and to the parties concerned."

The motion was seconded by Mr Smith O'Brien, supported by Mr O'Connell, and carried unanimously. The "Liberator" then proceeded to controvert the misrepresentations of the "Commissioner," and quoted several authorities for the purpose of showing that his property was in a flourishing condition. In conclusion, he expressed his contempt for the "Commissioner" and his employer. Rent for the week, £158 2s. 9d.

A CABINET COUNCIL was held at half-past two o'clock yesterday afternoon, at the Foreign-office. The ministers present were Sir Robert Peel, the Duke of Wellington, Lord Wharfedale, the Earl of Aberdeen, Lord Stanley, Sir James Graham, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Earl of Haddington, the Earl of Ripon, Lord Granville Somerset, the Earl of Lincoln, and the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert. The Council sat four hours.

WARLIKE PREPARATIONS.—We can state as a fact (says the *Liverpool Times*), that a naval officer, high in command, has been privately engaged in taking measurements of the large steamers under mail contract service with her Majesty's government, and with orders to report immediately to the Admiralty on their capabilities for carrying guns of the largest calibre. The large steamers, forming the fleet of the West India Royal Mail Company; also, the vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental Company, together with the Great Britain and Great Western, are said to have been quietly but officially inspected.—The Dublin correspondent of the *Times* mentions a rumour, that government mean to increase the army by 20,000 men, 10,000 to be formed into second or reserve battalions, thus effecting a great saving in the number of officers required for the additional force. It is also confidently stated, in military circles, that the militia will be balloted for early next year, and called out for training.

MONUMENT TO THE LATE DR WATTS.—Yesterday a most interesting ceremony took place at Abney chapel, Stoke Newington, namely, the inauguration of a cenotaph to the memory of the late Dr Watts, the author of the well-known "Hymns," erected by subscription in Abney-park cemetery. Alderman Kelly was in the chair; and, amongst a very numerous assemblage, were—Mr T. Hankey, the banker; Dr Morison, Dr Philip, of Maberly chapel; Mr Aveling, M.A., of Kingsland road; Mr Thomas Binney, of the Weigh-house chapel; and other ministers, well-known in the neighbourhood of the metropolis, besides several of the students connected with the college at Highbury.

EARLY CLOSING OF SHOPS.—A public meeting, convened by the London General Association of all Trades for the Early Closing of Shops, was held yesterday evening, in the theatre of the Western Institution, Leicester-square, in furtherance of the objects of the association. General Sir De Lacy Evans occupied the chair, and addressed the meeting at some length. Mr Lee moved, and Dr Epps seconded a resolution, declaring the uselessness of late shopping. Another in favour of appealing to the public, by means of widely-circulated statements and addresses against the habit of late-hour shopping, and pledging the meeting to co-operate with the association, and to assist, by pecuniary contributions and otherwise, in procuring the contemplated relief, was also carried.

KENT-ROAD BRITISH SCHOOLS.—The large and commodious school-rooms recently erected in the Kent road, upon the principles of the British and Foreign society, were opened last night, and the event was celebrated by a public meeting, numerous and most respectfully attended. Benjamin Hawes, Esq., M.P., took the chair shortly before seven o'clock, amidst the cheers of the meeting. The honourable member was supported by T. Wye, Esq., M.P., W. Christie, Esq., M.P., Apaley Pellatt, Esq., D. Wire, Esq., and several gentlemen of respectability and local influence, including several ministers of various denominations. A statement of the proceedings which had been taken to establish the school, was read by Mr Richards, of Marlbro'-street chapel, from which it appears that the cost of the building would be about £980. To meet this expenditure they had to acknowledge subscriptions, paid or promised, which, including a grant of £75 liberally made by the Congregational Board of Education, amounted to £678 11s. 6d., leaving a deficiency of about £300 to be made up, part of which they would vain hope would be met by the liberality of the meeting. The committee had declined any aid from government. The chairman, Mr D. Wire, Mr Wye, M.P., Mr Christie, M.P., Mr R. Anslie, Mr Blackburn, and Mr A. Pellatt, then addressed the meeting. The M.P.'s defended the receipt of government aid in the work of education. Lord John Russell was to have presided, but was unable to attend.

THE MONEY AND SHARE MARKETS, TUESDAY.—The English securities have been flat all day. The settlement in Consols was effected this afternoon, when prices exhibited a downward tendency, money being in demand, and the *Bears* in complete possession of the market. There were severe fluctuations in prices, and the decline was about one-half per cent. on the average. The share-market has been very depressed. Prices in almost all cases show the effect of attempted sales.

FREE TRADE MOVEMENTS.—A numerous and highly-influential meeting assembled on Monday evening, at seven o'clock, in the great room of the Cutlers' hall, Sheffield, for the purpose of considering the urgent importance of making renewed and more strenuous exertions for placing as many voters as possible, favourable to the cause of free trade, upon the register of the West Riding of Yorkshire. Mr Edward Smith occupied the chair, and Messrs Cobden and Bright addressed the meeting with their usual effect. Their reception was most enthusiastic.—A meeting of the inhabitants of Southwark, to call upon government to open the ports, was held at the Bridge House hotel yesterday evening. Sir W. Molesworth, M.P. for the borough, was present. The Liverpool meeting takes place on Friday.

#### CORN MARKET. MARK LANE. THIS DAY.

	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Beans	Pears	Flour.
English ..	1410	4620	4100			
Scotch ....						
Irish ....		500	7990			
Foreign ..	7340	660	1760			

Market firm at Monday's prices.

Terms for advertising in the *Nonconformist*.  
For 7 lines.....5s. 0d. | For 10 lines.....6s. 0d.  
For every additional line..... 4d.

Advertisements from the country must be accompanied by a post-office order, or reference for payment in London.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"W. L. R. C.," next week.

"B. B." is right, but his mode of putting it is not just suitable.

"A Subscriber." The table would fill, at least, two of our numbers.

Our Oxford correspondent is informed that no Complete Suffrage Almanack will appear this year.

"A Constant Reader." Not dead, but sleeping.

"A. B. R. N. N." We will make use of his communication next week.

Our Chesham correspondent is informed that his friend is wholly without legal remedy.

"Delta." All such communications should be accompanied by the name and address of the writer.

All communications to the Editor should be addressed to the office, 3, Whitefriars street, Fleet street.

## The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, NOV. 26, 1845.

#### SUMMARY.

MINISTERS have again met, and again dispersed. They would seem to be intent upon baulking public expectation. A cabinet council of unusual duration, followed by a privy council held the next day at Windsor, results in nothing more than a formal announcement, in the *Gazette*, that parliament stands prorogued to the 16th of December. It is certain, then, that the houses of legislature will not meet for the despatch of business on this side Christmas. By that time, government, it is said, will be in full possession of information respecting the deficiency in the harvest; and by that time much of our bonded corn will have been shipped to the Continent; most of the corn-growing countries in Europe will be rendered inaccessible to us, and the price of food in America will have risen in proportion to the urgency of our wants. The potato murrain, as it is now termed, does not wait the decision of cabinet ministers. It makes formidable progress both in Ireland and in England; and waste, the natural concomitant of a calamity the extent of which none can foresee, is adding to the ravages of disease. It is said that the corn harvest in England is not nearly so deficient as was once believed; and that the stocks of old grain in the hands of farmers in England, and of oatmeal in the possession of dealers in Ireland, are unprecedentedly large. It may be so. We trust it is so, for assuredly we shall want all the food which falls within our reach. High prices, however, are but a modification of actual famine; and if myriads do not starve, hundreds of thousands will have to complain of want of employment. The manufacturing districts are already beginning to feel the turn in the tide of national affairs. Gloom has suddenly overspread the whole scene of our industrial enterprise. Short hours are becoming the order of the day—the sure forerunner of a reduction of wages. We are entering upon another season of depression; and the discontent which suffering must engender, will again try the strength of our political machinery.

Meanwhile government has taken another step in advance, or rather, it is trifling with the urgency of the case and the demands of the people, by the appointment of another commission. Yes, the state physician, while the disease is preying upon his patient, and nothing but prompt treatment can avert dissolution, is leisurely investigating the extent of the malady. One commission occupies three weeks in suggesting plans for mitigating a wide-spread calamity, and when that has done its work, a second commission is appointed to collect information. The ministerial remedy for impending famine is a commission. If the case is urgent, let more of these abortive tribunals be appointed. If no other objects are gained by this course, there is, at least, a show of doing something—delay is gained, and patronage is created and bestowed on political friends. The duty of this new commission will be, we are told by the Irish secretary, "to give encouragement to the undertaking of public works of various descriptions, to afford advice and information to those benevolent persons who may come forward to assist the poor, and to aid their praiseworthy exertions by all means at their disposal." The obvious meaning of this, translated into genuine English, is as follows:—"We cannot afford to give up our corn laws, which create the present distress, but we shall be very happy to become your almoners in the distribution of that charity which you may give to relieve it." The profound statesmanship of this device must strike every observer; but why a commission need have been appointed to take charge of people's bounty is utterly at a loss to divine.

It is plain, however, that all this higgling will

prove unsuitable to the temper of the times. The country is rousing itself from sleep, and, from one end of the kingdom to the other, municipal bodies and public meetings speak in forcible terms the will of the people. The day for deluding them with old pretences is gone by. They know the danger—they foresee the consequences—they have a distinct perception of the remedy. Imposture cannot now deceive them; nor, we should think, can artful appeals to their national prejudices lull them again to a false security. They are likely enough to follow Mr Bright's admirable counsel, to meet everywhere—to pass one short but emphatic resolution, "Resolved, that we won't stand it any longer." We cannot enumerate the places in which this, in substance, has been done. They are too numerous even for the bare mention of their names. We can only note the fact, and we do it with pleasure, that the steam is rapidly getting up, and that, before Parliament meets, Sir R. Peel must take his choice between dissentient colleagues and an angry nation.

The League, however, appears determined not to trust the issue of their great enterprise to the unorganised strength of popular feeling. It is extending, very much further than we had thought it possible, its plan of forty-shilling freehold enfranchisement. Several counties have thus been won for free trade, and a still larger number, it appears, will be secured by the next registration. The weapon, contrary to our expectations, turns out to be an efficient one, and will serve, not merely for the purposes of the League, but for all the purposes at which public movements aim. It is binding the aristocracy with their own locks—battering their strongholds with their own artillery. That it will serve as a measure of justice to the people, none can pretend; but we are in good hope that it may, hereafter, be turned to account, in obtaining, for the people, the justice which they desire. So far as practical results have yet gone, the plan appears to be one which will do more to alarm land-monopolists, than any other which has yet been propounded. It has this advantage—that it need not wait the consent of the legislature.

Coming now to less popular subjects, but, assuredly, not less important, we have the gratification of announcing the complete success of the Anti-state-church *soirée*, held on Friday last. About 600 persons sat down to tea, which, taking into account the inclemency of the night, and the rather high price charged for tickets of admission, indicates a growing interest in the question of state-churchism, which we had not previously suspected. The amount collected towards the £3,000 fund, about £120, was not large, and was mostly contributed in the shape of annual subscriptions. The spirit of the meeting was excellent; and, as in all the former proceedings of this Association, the speeches were marked by great forbearance and good temper. We must refer our readers to the report we have given, with an earnest request that they will read it attentively. The movement, we believe, will now be followed up, with as much spirit as possible, in our principal provincial towns, and, we have little doubt, will be attended with like success in most parts of the kingdom.

Foreign news is of an important character this week. We have tidings from America, boding increased difficulties in relation to Oregon—from India, informing us of further distraction in the Punjab, and the probability of British interference—from New Zealand, giving an account of a third encounter between the colonial troops and the natives, in which the former were repulsed, and lost, in killed and wounded, upwards of one-fourth of their men—and, from the river Plate, detailing the progress of hostilities against Rosas and his adherents, by the combined forces of England and France. All accounts indicate an unsettledness in our foreign relations—an unsettledness which but too well tallies with our domestic disquietude.

#### TREASURING UP JUDGMENT.

THE country, we perceive, is beginning to stir—the press and the people exhibit symptoms of impatience. The dark cloud which, a week or two ago, lay lazily upon the horizon, like a slumbering leviathan, has risen up, filling the heavens with terror. Low mutterings, distant as yet, but in quick succession, are distinctly audible to the listening ear—and the play of sheet lightning shows the atmosphere to be charged to the full with the subtle but irresistible element out of which thunderbolts are fashioned. Who shall predict the end? From the commencement of December to the end of May there are six months. What will be the several phases which national discontent will assume during the lapse of that interval? As yet, suffering is prospective only, and is, comparatively, easy to be borne. Presently, we shall hear the shrieks of the first victims—of those whose poverty and squalor drive them to the outskirts of society. The now scattered and unnoticed myriads, pursued by famine, will press madly upon the class next above them—the employed, but ill-paid poor. Scarcity and high prices, co-existent with the failing of labour, and a hot competition between the labourers, will rain down upon this ex-

tensive class a deluge of misery. The outer circles will contract upon the inner ones—the working men upon the small shopkeepers—they again upon wholesale dealers—the manufacturer, the merchant, the banker, will be involved in the growing confusion. Embarrassment, in some shape, will overtake all. More mouths than food constitutes the raw material of most political revolutions—and, should a general shaking come, let the aristocracy look to it—for the weakest will go to the wall.

It may be, that the time for the subversion of the present exclusive system of government is near at hand—that aristocratic predominance is close upon the end of its cycle—and that justice and common-sense are on the steps of that throne, which has too long been usurped by a conventional and selfish power. It may be, we say; and, should the hypothesis turn out to be the right one, then, very much which is now inexplicable will be easily solved. The infatuation of our rulers—their early alarm, followed by their subsequent indifference—their half-official promise to open the ports, redeemed only by impenetrable silence—what they have done to recognise the fact of an impending dearth, and what they refuse to do to relieve it—the oft-repeated antecedent declarations which prove that they know the remedy, coupled with all the dumb signs which make it clear that they will not apply it—the cool audacity with which they utter their "No," when every reasonable man is convinced that they will have to say "Yes," when it is too late to secure food for the people, or gratitude for themselves—the unruffled stoicism which enables them to practise customary formalities, in the presence of a nation actually trembling with expectation, with as much heartlessness as if nothing whatever had occurred—all these things are natural and in perfect keeping, if they are really precursors of the downfall of patrician power. The punishment of classes usually commences in a kind of judicial blindness; and the same decree which dooms men to rush upon political extinction, dooms them, also, like the infuriated ox, to close their eyes in the last push of desperation.

Many omens have of late appeared in the political hemisphere, awakening attention to the probability that the corn-law question is not the only one with which an indignant empire will grapple. A fortnight back, or even now, it might have sufficed to pull them up by the roots. Will this act of tardy justice satisfy the people six months hence? There are plenty of anomalies whose continued existence can be guaranteed only by timely concession—anomalies which general common-sense has condemned, but which national determination never roused itself to destroy. Safe enough in the season of repose, who can answer for them when the hour for work shall have arrived? Englishmen are proverbially slow to move, but, when once they gird themselves for change, they are apt to make a clean sweep of it. Just in proportion to the extremity of suffering upon which they are driven, will be the extent of reparation they will demand. Resist them till they gather up their whole strength—trifle with them till passion takes the place of forbearance—and they will dictate terms as victors, which, as supplicants, they never would have asked. There is a Providential law of compensation for every injury wantonly inflicted by one class upon another. Men who cry out for bread, and are insultingly denied, are likely enough to seek, not only food, but justice; and they who sue in vain the restoration of a right, will use the same power which avails to compel it in the one instance to secure them in all others.

There is, it must be confessed, pervading British society, a vague sentiment in favour of aristocracy. It is, however, rather the result of mental association, than of judgment. It suits men's fancy rather than their reason. Taste, memory, and pride, vote for it, and, of course, have out-voted common-sense. But a sentiment thus created and sustained, tenaciously as its roots may cling about the mind, cannot long stand the shock of actual suffering. The sentiment is for the sunshine, not for the storm. It blossoms in seasons of prosperity—it droops and withers when adversity overtakes us. The earthquake which swallows up our own domiciles, makes us indifferent to the overthrow of palaces. The best friends of the aristocracy should caution them against laying too heavy a stress upon the good-feeling of the people. When the conventional and the natural must needs clash, we all know which must be shivered by the collision. Appetites are stronger than sentiments—passions, than fancies. In the day of want, ornaments, even the most valuable, are readily exchanged for food—a Titian is unhesitatingly sacrificed for a meal—an Iron Duke is deposed for Free-trade—the Corinthian capital of society is esteemed as nothing compared with the stability of the edifice. The velvet and the ermine can hardly be associated, in the eye of society, with famine and pestilence, without exposing them to the danger of being torn into tatters.

These thoughts, which every day's news from Ireland freshens within us, lead us to expect a more comprehensive change than is generally looked for. We do not profess to foresee what

questions it will include, in addition to the repeal of the Corn laws—but no man can declare with certainty what it will *not* include. The French revolution was not ushered in with more significant prognostics than those which glare upon our eyes—the *noblesse* of that day were not more infatuated, nor more heartless, than the aristocracy of this. We rejoice, however, in the belief, that little danger is to be apprehended in the shape of physical force. We have learned how to hurl oppression to the earth without resorting to that. Be this as it may, we feel assured that the day of reckoning has already dawned—and that, ere long, the callous indifference of those who, at present, hold the reins of supremacy, will be found to be the sure precursor of their ruin. They are grievously trifling with a nation's welfare—but they are also treasuring up judgment for themselves.

#### KING DAN AND HIS TRIBUTE-MONEY.

If report speak the truth, the O'Connell tribute has this year fully equalled, if it have not exceeded, the usual amount. Upwards of twenty thousand pounds, contributed, for the most part, by a people steeped in poverty to the very lips, and in the full expectation of an awful dearth, to a political leader professedly aiming at his country's regeneration, is dwelt upon by the newspaper press with emphatic severity, as a specimen of folly on the one hand, and selfishness on the other, such as no country in the world but Ireland can furnish. Even were their strictures just, they are remarkably partial in the application of them. The sum, it is true, is a large one—but not larger than some of our own bishops appropriate to their use. It is paid to maintain a delusion—but, so is much of that national wealth which is transferred to the coffers of the church. It might in decency have been declined this year—but which of the servants of the public will set Mr O'Connell the example in this line of generous self-sacrifice? The only difference between King Dan's tribute, and much of that tribute which government collects and distributes among its creatures, is in the machinery worked to obtain it—the one being got by fraud, and the other by force.

O'Connell's main fault is, that he is too close an imitator of the aristocracy whom he reviles. His ends are the same as theirs—most selfish when most seemingly patriotic. His love of country, like theirs, invariably carries grist to his own mill. Like them, he uses high-sounding phrases to cover the littleness of his own designs. His "Ireland for the Irish," is but a new pattern of their "Glorious constitution in Church and State." His unhesitating vituperation of all who stand in his way, is a habit which he may have caught from landowning legislators in the House of Commons. His accommodation both of his facts and his oratory to the low taste of Conciliation Hall, is a servile copy of what is common in St Stephen's. The zeal with which he labours to set Celt against Saxon, was probably awakened by the temporary success which followed the pitting agriculture against manufactures, in this country. And the fulsome adulation he pays to the Romish hierarchy, because the members of it help him to maintain his supremacy, is a trick which he may have learned from seeing it often practised on this side the water. People here call him a political buffoon. They could not have hit upon a truer description of him. He dances a *pas de miroir* to our own aristocracy—or rather, he is the image in the glass, which faithfully repeats all their characteristic movements.

That such a man should have his public revenue is but fair—that he should insist upon it, even when it must needs be wrung from cruel privation, is but acting upon the principles of his betters. The Anti-corn-law League tells us that we are now paying for our bread at the rate of £20,000,000 a year more than we did twelve months ago, and yet our aristocracy are by no means moved to relinquish the corn laws. Oh! for a *Times* Commissioner and a *Punch* to deal with these men, as they deal with O'Connell! Why, £20,000 is a paltry sum, for receiving which from a hungry people, to crucify a man as a heartless impostor. If he be worthy of such a punishment, what must the swarm of idlers deserve whom this man imitates? If there be selfishness and cruelty in the one case, what shall we say of the other? Better, far, have a one-headed extortionist, than a many-headed one. And if the press must deal, as deal they ought, with the vultures who prey upon the vitals of society, let it show at once its impartiality and its courage, by swooping down upon the flock, rather than by singling out a stray individual of the species. There is meanness enough in O'Connell—heartlessness more than enough—and impudent quackery beyond all tolerable bounds; but, after all, he is but the small-hand character of what we may every day see, at home, in staring capitals—a miniature impersonation of the spirit of aristocracy. King Dan is no monster—or, if he is one, the empire literally swarms with monsters. No! no! he is a skilful mimic—and he has taken our nobles for his model of excellent craft.

#### WHO IS THE BETTER FRIEND TO IRELAND?

The *Times* Commissioner, the especial object of Mr O'Connell's enmity (the reason of which may, perhaps, be partially found in the anticipated description of the Liberator's estate in Kerry, given in another column), still continues his valuable communications from the sister island, and furnishes a picture of unlimited natural resources in the country, united with the absence of enterprise and industry amongst the people, which has rarely been exceeded. His communications teem with proofs of the unrivalled advantages enjoyed by the people, and with practical suggestions for turning them to account. Thus, in writing from Cork last week, he says:—

"The sea around the coast teems with fish. I am assured, that in Scull-bay and Crookhaven the mackerel are often seen over the whole surface jostling one another, and absolutely running on shore to escape the porpoises, which follow them into the bays, and prey upon them. The people often knock them on the head with the oars of their boats, and yet will not exert themselves to net them. Tell the men, 'Why don't you get out your nets, and exert yourselves to take the fish, or you deserve to starve?' and you get an answer, 'Och, the nets want mending;' or 'Sure we haven't got the nets ready;' or, as one man thus occupied answered a gentleman who asked this question, 'Och, musha, by dad, Sir, before we could get the nets out, they would be off;' and these poor exertionless, good-natured, apathetic men, do in reality almost starve, whilst the men of St Ives, and from the coast of Cornwall, cross the channel, live and labour in their boats, realise large sums, and obtain employment and comforts for themselves and families, by catching the fish which swarm on the very shores of these bays—those who dwell on the shores meantime starving. Well, most men would say, 'As you are close to one another, as you want fish for food, or money which fish will realise, with a little labour and enterprise, to obtain you comforts and necessities, just catch the fish which have come to you to be caught, and that same wealth, and comfort, and independence, which the Cornish men earn on your shores, you will earn too, and that will remedy your present state of distress.' 'Oh, dear no,' say the repealers—and they bear out what they say by acting accordingly—the remedies which are wanted, and which will, in fact, cure everything, are political discussions in the Cork Chamber of Commerce, Daniel Callaghan for a member to carry out our views, and O'Connell to get up a political agitation to sever us from England. A 'demonstration' is the thing; and, as an earnest of our sincere conviction that these are the only remedies for the starving men of Skibbereen and Scull, we pay tribute to Mr O'Connell for advocating them."

This is a truthful picture of the relative enterprise of the English and Irish character. For telling these useful—if they were but attended to—but unwelcome truths, the Commissioner is held up to the scorn and contempt of all Ireland. But perhaps his assailants have better things to offer. They have theories in abundance, but take care never to suggest anything *practical*. For example, the *Nation* of Saturday thus discourses on the uses to be made of Irish railways:—

"A hint on this subject may be thought enough; but we see no objection to speaking plainly; and, therefore, we give a few practical views, which may be improved as engineers turn their attention to the subject:—

"First, then, every railway within five miles of Dublin could in one night be totally cut off from the interior country. To lift a mile of rail, to fill a perch or two of any cutting or tunnel, to break down a piece of an embankment, seem obvious and easy enough.

"Second—The materials of railways—good hammered iron and wooden sleepers—need we point out, that such things may be of use in other lines than assisting locomotion.

"Third—Troops upon their march by rail might be conveniently met with in divers places. Hofer, with his Tyrolens, could hardly desire a deadlier ambush than the brinks of a deep cutting upon a railway. Imagine a few hundred men lying in wait upon such a spot, with masses of rock and trunks of trees ready to roll down—and a train or two advancing with a regiment of infantry, and the engine panting near and nearer, till the polished studs of brass on its front are distinguishable, and its name may nearly be read; 'Now in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost!—now ———'

"But, 'tis a dream. No enemy will dare put us to realise these scenes. Yet, let all understand what a railway may, and what it may not do."

Which of these two is the truest friend to Irish prosperity? The hateful "Saxon" points out to the indolent Celt the path of peaceful industry and future support; the flaming patriot, at a time when, from a failure in his staple article of food, the mind of his countryman is more than ordinarily inflammable, endeavours to excite his worst passions, by teaching him how to employ those improvements which might be a blessing, as instruments of revenge. The repealers seem bent upon proving to the world two things—that they detest social improvement as recommended by others, and that they do not care to introduce it themselves.

#### COLONIAL OPPRESSION.

THE history of our West India colonies, since the act of emancipation, has been the record of successive attempts by the planters to encroach upon the newly-acquired political rights of the negro population, to check, as far as possible, their intellectual and moral improvement, and to discourage every exertion made by them or their friends to elevate their social position. Their policy in dealing with the peasantry has been invariably of

a retrograde character. They look back with regret upon the time when slavery gave them unlimited control over the life and labour of the negro. Possessed of exclusive political power, they have not scrupled to use it, to the fullest extent, against the rights of their helpless inferiors. If emancipation has proved a successful experiment—if the negro has been raised in the scale of civilisation, and has been taught to appreciate the advantages of freedom, the dignity of his own nature, and the blessings of true religion—it has been in spite of his former master. Through the indefatigable exertions of Mr Knibb, the intrepid opponent of slavery, the people of this country have been kept tolerably well informed of the misdoings of the Jamaica planters—their restriction upon personal liberty—their grinding system of taxation, made to fall with unrelenting severity upon the labouring population—their odious fiscal regulations—and their enactments aiming to deter the peasantry from the acquisition of landed property.

We are sorry to learn, by recent intelligence from Jamaica, that this cruel policy is far from having been exhausted. By their industry and frugality, a large proportion of the peasantry have been enabled to purchase small freeholds, which have rendered them, in some measure, independent of the local aristocracy, and invested them with political power. To thwart these laudable efforts of the labouring population has, for some time past, been the object of the planters. To this end they have not hesitated to employ the arm of authority. In several parishes the vestries have laid a tax on every house built since emancipation, exempting entirely the old houses, which are all situated on the estates. Nor is this all. Finding that this large number of freeholders who have recently acquired the franchise, are likely to exercise considerable influence in the election of the members of the Assembly, it has been suggested, and will probably be proposed during the session which has just opened, that the annual value of freehold votes shall be raised and the franchise remodeled in order to exclude the popular element. The aristocracy of Jamaica, too, not satisfied with the present oppressive costliness of the colonial state-church, intend to procure further grants from the public taxes to bolster up the ecclesiastical hierarchy repudiated by the great body of the people. We trust, however, they will be foiled in these schemes of injustice. The negro population have firm and undaunted advocates in William Knibb and his brethren, who have, ere this, shown themselves more than a match for the landed proprietors with all their legislative authority. Backed by the bulk of the intelligent peasantry, and sustained by the friends of freedom in this country, we doubt not they will succeed in checking any further attempt to encroach upon the rights of the emancipated negroes.

In Guiana and Trinidad the oppression of the planters has at length produced a re-action, in the shape of a general movement for a legislative constitution, such as is enjoyed by other of our West India colonies. In each of these colonies meetings were about to be held, for memorialising her Majesty to confer upon them the right of popular representation. The tyranny of the oligarchy, which now holds supreme authority in Guiana, has become intolerable; nor can it be wondered at, when it is recollected, that of the ten members of the Court of Policy six are planters. These irresponsible legislators have, as may naturally be supposed, made use of their power to further their own private interests. Thus, on flour they have laid a tax of 47 per cent.; on beef, of 55 per cent.; on pork, of 33 per cent.; whilst their own sugar is taxed at rather less than one per cent. The planters contribute only one-twentieth part of the public revenue; five thousand freeholders in Demerara and Essequibo, owning land and houses, have not a single vote amongst them. These facts are sufficient to prepare us for the renewed inroads upon what little of popular freedom the colony now enjoys, in a series of enactments, which are justly described as "acts for the reviving and perpetuating as much as possible of slavery in the colony of British Guiana." These proposed measures are as yet under the consideration of the Court of Policy, and are thus described by a writer in the *Guiana Times*:—

"A landlord and tenant act, a trespass act, a vagrant act (a very stringent one, enacted by order in council, being in existence, and never put in force), and a transfer of the dangerous, unconstitutional, and odious powers of the town magistrate, to such magistrates as the governor may think fit, from whose decision there is no appeal, no *habeas corpus* act existing, by which a man might, at least, secure a hearing. These laws to be made and altered by a court composed of individuals, between a majority of whom and the peasantry there is an antagonism of interest, and to be enforced by a body of magistrates, amongst whom are not a few ignorant, illiterate, self-sufficient individuals, too stupid to understand, and too obstinate to take advice, or retract an error?"

The writer concludes with a forcible appeal to the opponents of slavery in this country, which we are sure will not be made in vain:—

"I contend, sir, there is much in this state of things to alarm the most firm for the future well-being of the country, and only hope that the friends of emancipation

in Britain will so exert themselves to save this fine but miserably governed province from evils inseparably attendant on such a wild and reckless system of legislation. Friends of freedom! to you we appeal! After making such heavy sacrifices, at such an enormous cost of money, to free the people of this colony, we entreat you to prevent that freedom being rendered but a mockery, and to insist on the spirit of the Emancipation act being fully carried out, which it never will be until all classes and degrees of the people, owning property, or paying direct taxes, are fairly, fully, and directly represented in a local legislature, similar to those existing in the neighbouring islands."

The colonists do not, however, trust entirely to foreign aid to secure their emancipation from political bondage. They are preparing to bestir themselves on their own behalf, by memorialising the home government for a local legislature—a request which, if pressed with firmness and unanimity, we do not see that government can refuse. We shall watch with interest the result of these hopeful efforts at political independence.

#### SENTIMENTS PROPER TO THE PRESENT CRISIS.

(From Sir J. Graham's "Corn and Currency.")

*At one time the prohibitory system is unjust to the grower; at another, to the consumer. The grower is injured when, after a harvest somewhat deficient, the ports are opened by a sudden rise of price, and a large accumulation of foreign corn is poured at once into the country; bringing on the farmer the losses incident to overproduction, and ultimately to the landlord a corresponding decline of rent. The consumer is injured in the interval between the rise of price and the importation of foreign grain; he is even exposed to the horrors of famine; for, in proportion as the demand for foreign grain is unusual, the supply in case of emergency must be precarious. Thus the alternate evils of redundancy and scarcity, unsteady prices and uncertain rents, are the inevitable consequences of the present system of our corn laws.*

The landlord's best customer is the manufacturer; but his prosperity depends entirely on high profits, which it is the avowed tendency of high prices to reduce. (As the writer had demonstrated above.) If corn be dearer in England than elsewhere, wages must be higher; and if wages be higher, profits must be lower; thus our foreign competitors obtain the greatest possible advantage; and, if the system become permanent, manufacturing employment, except for the home market, must decrease in this country; and, surely, it is not the interest of any class so to enhance the price of labour and provisions as to secure to the foreigner successful competition, and to choke with obstructions the principal channels of native industry.

The feeling of the public must be hostile to the present corn law; the receivers of rent are a very small body; backed by public opinion, they are almost omnipotent; in violation of public opinion they cannot long retain an exclusive advantage. The contest is fearful; for on what ground will it be decided? On the very topic which inflames to madness; that hunger which breaks through walls will be arrayed against them; reason will be heard no longer; the barriers of society will be broken down; and estates, distinctions, honours, swept away in one resistless torrent."

**STATE OF TRADE.**—The following are extracts from last week's reports from the manufacturing districts:—**Manchester.**—The state of business here is becoming a really serious affair; prices weekly, almost daily, receding, and buyers as scarce as they well can be. **Leeds.**—There have been very flat markets at both our cloth halls during the present week. Little is doing except assorting very sparingly for stock and for direct orders. The manufacturers have been acting with great caution for some time, and there is scarcely half the quantity of goods making as compared with their operations two months ago. The working classes in Bradford are at present complaining for want of work; the masters in many cases running short time, and in some cases the machinery is altogether idle. The trade of Haworth is beginning to assume a very gloomy appearance; some of the manufacturers have already commenced running short time, and we hear of others that are about to adopt the same course; thus unfortunately throwing out of employment numbers of the industrious classes at this inclement season. Trade in the neighbourhood of Dewsbury has so fallen off, that several mills which wrought full time have now begun to work only by daylight.

**THE MONEY AND SHARE MARKETS.**—On Saturday, the funds further declined, a general uneasiness prevailing with respect to the state of public affairs, foreign and domestic, not lessened by the intelligence from India and China, and the repulse of the British force under Colonel Despard at New Zealand. The gloom in the share market was increased by the unfavourable accounts of the Paris, the Dublin, and also of the provincial markets, where large failures are reported to have taken place. On Monday the funds were at first better, but again suffered a decline. The share market still continues to droop. A Liverpool paper gives the following flattering account of the state of the stock exchange of that town and Manchester:—"Everybody suspects his neighbour; accounts are jumbled together—all is chaos and confusion; much of the business is fictitious, there being no principals but the brokers themselves. It is impossible to know the sound from the unsound; hundreds of transactions will never be paid for; no reasonable man expects to obtain the rates at which he sold his favoured allotment. This week prices have fallen 20 to 30 per cent., and three firms have been expelled as defaulters."

**PORT ADELAIDE,** in South Australia, has been declared a free port, all dues, &c., having been abolished.

#### THE FREE TRADE REGISTRATION MOVEMENT.

Messrs Cobden and Bright are to address the free-traders of Leeds, on Tuesday evening. We sincerely hope that the gathering to welcome these indomitable champions of freedom will be worthy of the town. Already Halifax and Huddersfield have spoken out, and meetings are announced for Sheffield, Bradford, Doncaster, and Wakefield—shall we, then, be behind our neighbours in uniting to give the coup de main to these starvation laws?—*Leeds Times.*

A free-trade meeting of the inhabitants of this town will be held on Thursday evening next, in the New Hall, the mayor, Edward Weston, Esq., to preside.—*Leicester Mercury.*

At a special meeting of the committee of the League, at Manchester, on Tuesday night last, Mr Wilson, chairman of the League, read a list of thirty-four applications for qualifications, and stated, that parties desirous of possessing the franchise might now be accommodated, as the League had qualifications to dispose of in twenty-eight counties; but strongly recommended all parties purchasing to select their qualification in the immediate vicinity of their residence, as the expense of traveling must necessarily be a serious drawback at the time of election. He also stated, that during the year they had registered property for free-traders worth a quarter of a million of money, and he had no doubt that the same, or even a larger amount, would be registered in the present year.

**PURCHASE OF ENGLISH FREEHOLDS BY SCOTCH FREE TRADERS.**—We understand that several gentlemen in Dundee have intimated to the Council of the Anti-corn-law League their readiness to purchase a forty shilling freehold in any English county which the League may select.—*Dundee Warrier.*

**MEETING AT PRESTON.**—On Thursday evening last, a numerous-attended meeting was held at Preston, for the promotion of the principles of free trade, and the extension of the electoral franchise through the purchase of forty-shilling freeholds by the working classes, at which Messrs Cobden and Bright were present.

Messrs Cobden and Bright have also attended meetings to promote the registration movement in Burnley and Blackburn. It is a matter worthy of remark, that every manufacturer and spinner in Burnley is a free-trader and a subscriber to the League, and on this occasion almost every establishment was represented by its proprietors being on the platform or in the meeting.

**MIDDLESEX AND THE SURROUNDING COUNTIES.**—A series of meetings will be held, during the next few weeks, in all the principal polling districts of Middlesex, East Surrey, Herts, Essex, South Hants, West Kent, and East Sussex, for the purpose of urging upon the unregistered friends of free trade the importance of qualifying, by the purchase of 40s. freeholds—first, for the county, or such division of these counties, in which they reside; and then for as many of the neighbouring counties as possible.—*League.*

**EDUCATIONAL MEETING AT ABERGAVENNY.**—On the evening of Thursday, Nov. 6th, a public meeting was held in the Cymreigyddion Hall, Abergavenny, for the purpose of taking into consideration the best means of founding a school, upon general and unsectarian principles, for the instruction of the children of the working classes. Sir Benjamin Hall occupied the chair, and addressed the meeting in an able speech. He was followed by Mr Daniel, Dr Reynolds (a Roman Catholic), Mr Thomas, minister; Mr H. J. Bunn, minister; Mr H. Poole, minister; Mr Wyke, Mr J. Hiley Morgan, Mr Price, Mr C. Daniel, &c. We are sorry that we have not space this week to report the excellent speeches delivered on the occasion. The resolutions adopted were as follows:—

"That it appears to this meeting highly necessary that a school should be immediately established in Abergavenny, for the instruction of the children of the working classes.

"That this meeting considers that while the education of the children of the working classes ought to be based on the principles of the bible, yet it should be kept perfectly free from sectarian peculiarities.

"That this meeting cordially approves the system of the British and Foreign School Society, because no party influence is permitted to control the management of its schools, and while the scriptures are read and taught daily, no human creed or catechism is used in the instruction of the pupils.

"That this meeting earnestly calls upon the friends of free education to give their support to a school conducted on these principles, and designed for the benefit of persons of every religious persuasion; and that the following gentlemen be appointed to wait on the inhabitants of the town to solicit subscriptions and donations in aid of the institution:—Mr John Morgan, Mr Charles Daniel, Mr W. Havard, Mr John James, Mr J. H. Conway, Mr Michael, Mr Bigglestone, and Mr J. Hiley Morgan."

On Wednesday evening last, a meeting was held at the Town-hall, Newport, called for the purpose of receiving a deputation from the Welsh Educational committee. The chair was taken by Joseph Latch, Esq., Mayor; and Mr T. L. Bright, of Newport, minister—the deputation, Messrs Griffiths, of Brecon, and Jones, of Carmarthen—and other gentlemen addressed the meeting.

**PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.**—It was ordered at the Privy Council, held at Windsor, on Thursday, that parliament should be prorogued from Thursday, the 27th, to Tuesday, December 16th.

#### OPENING OF THE PORTS.

A very numerous meeting of the merchants, manufacturers, bankers, tradesmen, and other inhabitants of Manchester, was held in the Town hall, on Thursday morning, to consider the propriety of memorialising government to open the ports, for free admission of grain. The meeting was convened by the Mayor, at the requisition of 800 firms and individuals of station in the town. Mr B. Watkins, the mayor, presided. The meeting was addressed by Mr Gregg, Mr Heywood, Mr Alderman Kay, Mr Mark Phillips, M.P., Mr Joseph Brotherton, M.P., and several others, and a memorial to Sir Robert Peel, as first lord of the treasury, praying for the immediate opening of the ports for the free admission of provisions, as a measure urgently required by the necessities of the country, was agreed to. The memorial concluded as follows:—

Your memorialists would, in conclusion, respectfully, but most earnestly, remind you how heavy will be your individual responsibility, if you now refuse to act in accordance with those principles the truth of which you have so often acknowledged, and by the full adoption of which, and by that only, they believe the nation can be preserved from disaster and calamity appalling to contemplate.

The following gentlemen were appointed a deputation for the purpose of presenting the memorial to Sir Robert Peel:—viz., the Mayor, Mark Phillips, Esq., M.P., Joseph Brotherton, Esq., M.P., Mr Alderman Kay, Robert Hyde Greg, Esq.

On Wednesday the Chamber of Commerce of Newcastle also adopted a memorial to Sir Robert Peel, in favour of the opening of the ports.

On the same day the town council of Nottingham have adopted a memorial to the same effect.

Public meetings for the same object have been held by the working classes of Oldham and Glasgow and the inhabitants of Bolton.

In Scotland meetings have been general during the week, calling upon government to open the ports for the free admission of foreign grain. Among the places which have adopted memorials to government are Dumfries, Dunfermline, and Stirling. A great meeting was to be held at Glasgow on Saturday, for the same object.

The newly-elected Mayor of Liverpool (D. Hodgson, Esq.) has refused to call a public meeting to consider the present critical state of the country, on the requisition of 5,863 inhabitants. He tells the merchants of Liverpool who wait upon him, and all who sign the document, that until her Majesty's government have terminated their deliberations on the "apprehended distress" he will not move an inch in the matter. A meeting is, notwithstanding, to be held on the subject this day.

Memorials to her Majesty's government, praying that the ports may be open for the free admission of grain, have also been adopted by the operative cotton spinners of Lancashire, Yorkshire, Cheshire, and Derbyshire, being upwards of 10,000 in number; the operatives of Kendal, the Town Councils of Manchester, Leeds, Sheffield, and Stockport.

**THE CORN TRADE.**—The trade in wheat has, since our last, assumed a decidedly firmer tone at the leading provincial markets; and, contrary to the usual course of affairs, prices have begun to move upwards in the country, whilst they have remained nearly stationary in the metropolitan market. We are, therefore, disposed to regard the turn which business has taken at the chief country markets, as a direct confirmation of the opinion we have all along maintained, viz., that the crop of wheat is decidedly short of that of average seasons.—*Mark Lane Express.*

**REPRESENTATION OF WINDSOR.**—For a week past there have been rumours that another seat for Windsor is to be vacated, and they are again renewed. It is said that Mr Neville will be made a Commissioner of Customs; and that either the Honourable Mr Lawley or the Honourable Mr Tollemache, both of the second life guards, will offer himself to the electors.

**ELECTION OF LORD RECTOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW.**—The annual election of Lord Rector of the University took place on Saturday week, when Mr Rutherford, M.P., was all but unanimously re-elected in the whole of the nations. Some sixteen or seventeen votes were given for Mr Campbell of Monzie, and one or two for the Earl of Eglintoun, while the votes tendered for Mr Rutherford amounted to 107.

**RAILROAD SURVEYING IN WINDSOR PARK.**—A short time since a person, who was engaged in surveying one of the projected lines of railway (said to be from Great Grimsby to London), which will (if permitted) intersect some portion of the royal domain at Windsor, was observed by her Majesty, in her drive through the Long Walk into the Great Park, industriously pursuing his labours. The fact was instanced by some three or four red flags, which had been stuck in the ground close to the carriage drive. Her Majesty, who immediately commanded the carriage in which she was driving to stop, sent one of the equerries in attendance to order the surveyor to desist. The royal command, at that time, was of course strictly attended to. The next morning, however, (but a little more surveying over the royal property being required for the purposes of the projected company) the work was again commenced, and completed within one hour after sunrise.

The *New York Evangelist* states that Jefferson College has conferred the degree of D.D. upon Mr James Carlile, editor of the *Christian Examiner*, and Mr Robert Ferguson, both ministers in London.

## Foreign Intelligence.

## INDIA AND CHINA.

The overland Bombay mail of the 15th October has been brought to London by the express of the daily papers. The interest entirely centres in the Punjab, the scene of new troubles. The tale, related in letters from Lahore of the 24th September, is briefly this:—Peshora Singh, on his way from Attock to Lahore, in order to be made Vizier, had been assassinated. The assassin is said to be a melter or sweeper, whom Jowahir Singh raised to the rank of a chief, on condition of his undertaking the job; which, however, cost him his life. The troops round Lahore, who favoured Peshora, were violently incensed: they thronged round the fort; and in compliance with their demands, the Queen-mother, with her son the boy-king Dhuleep, quitted the fort and entered their camp; her brother, Jowahir Singh, the Vizier, accompanying her. The Queen traveled in a palanquin, was received with respect, and was conducted to a tent. The King, with his uncle the Vizier, followed on a state elephant. On reaching the camp, the division formerly commanded by General Court received the King, and led him near the tent in which his mother was resting. They ordered the elephant's guide to cause the animal to kneel; and, because he did not instantly do so, by a shot in the side severely wounded him. The elephant knelt; some soldiers approached, and took the King off, and sent him to his mother. The elephant was then forced to rise: and when the animal stood up, several shots were fired at Jowahir Singh, who was still on its back. The affrighted Vizier attempted to parley, and made great promises; but the incensed soldiers speedily killed him. Two of his favourites were soon after slain; and the three bodies were burned, with four women. One further reason for the hatred which the troops felt towards their victim, was a rumour that he had applied for aid to the British Government.

The movements of the Governor-general were involved in some doubt. At one time the expectation of hostilities with the Punjab had subsided; but the recent intelligence had revived in full force the prospect of speedy and determined intervention.

Shah Zemaun, the deposed and aged monarch of Cabul, died of cholera, at Loodiana, in September.

Burmah was threatened with civil war: Tharavaddie wished to nominate a favourite son as his successor; the other sons resisted; and the Prince of Prome was preparing to depose his father.

Advices from China came down to the 1st September; but possess little interest.

From Calcutta, we learn, that the railway commissioners and surveyors were actively prosecuting their investigations. Mr M. Stephenson was to leave Calcutta about the end of September, and to proceed over the whole of the line to the north-west provinces, by Mirzapore and Benares, Agra, Delhi, and Kurnaul, to Ferozepore; returning by the Ganges to Calcutta, which he was expected to reach early next March, so as to return to England by the April steamer.

## NORTH AMERICA.

The Great Western steam ship, which left New York on the 6th instant, arrived in the Mersey on Friday morning. It brings little additional news, but some modification of that received by previous arrivals. The *Washington Union* had recently reasserted, in rather strong terms, the right of the United States to the whole of Oregon; and the journal is supposed to foreshadow the message of Mr Polk to the approaching Congress. The same paper continues to protest against the English and French intervention in the Rio de la Plata; and it contradicts the statement made, that the government was about to send a special agent to Mexico for the purpose of demanding payment of the claims due. Those who circulate such reports, says the official organ, do not reflect upon the position of the United States in relation to Mexico.

The Washington correspondent of the *Journal of Commerce* says, that the rumour of a proposition for postponing the Oregon question for twenty years on certain conditions is not well grounded.

A letter from Oregon, in the *Platte Argus*, published at Mobile, states that the legislature had passed an act declaring that slavery shall not exist in that territory; owners of slaves were to be allowed two years for taking their slaves out of the territory; or in default, the slaves were to be free; free negroes or mulattoes also to leave the state within two years.

The *Albany Argus* states, that the wheat crop of the United States for the present year was estimated at 125,000,000 bushels, and acknowledged as the largest ever raised in the country. This increase is attributed not less to the large additional amount of land under cultivation, than to the genial character of the summer. Michigan state alone has raised at least 7,000,000 bushels of wheat, and that of the best quality.

## THE RIVER PLATE.

The French government has received accounts from Buenos Ayres of the 18th of September, which state that the united French and English squadrons have forced the entrance of the Uruguay and the Parana. Guarebaldi, the commander of the Monte Videan forces, has occupied the island of Martin Garcia, which commands the mouth of the Uruguay, and which is said to be the most important military station in South America. A part of the squadron had ascended the river for the purpose of occupying the islands in the neighbourhood of Monte Video. The government of Buenos Ayres continued to publish decrees forbidding all intercourse and communication which the allied squadrons. None of the inhabitants

of Buenos Ayres could obtain passports to leave the city, except by giving security, and binding themselves to have no intercourse with Monte Video.

A Toulon journal of the 16th states that the Duconé, which has arrived here from Monte Video, brings positive intelligence that Oribe has been compelled to abandon the siege of that place. Rosas has declared war against France and England, and it was reported that he had already taken possession of several trading vessels of the two countries.

## NEW ZEALAND.

## ANOTHER DEFEAT OF THE BRITISH TROOPS.

We have intelligence from New Zealand, by way of Bombay, which extends to the 12th of July. It describes a third conflict, between the English and some friendly natives, and the indomitable Heki's party. A body of about 500 men, composed of regulars of the 58th and 99th regiments, and some militia volunteers, with a party from her Majesty's ship, Hazard, under Lieutenant Philpotts, who had distinguished himself so much in the former encounter, were sent forward with some lumbering artillery to storm the pah of Heki, a strongly-entrenched fort, with a double stockade, and so built that a six-pounder could not get through the sides of the stockade. Of the artillery sent with him, a clear idea is given in Colonel Despard's despatch, by the narrative of the fact, that they frequently upset from their own firing. Finding this armament not likely to effect a speedy reduction of the place, a gun was begged from the Hazard, and brought some fifteen miles to the spot, when it was found that only twenty-six rounds of ammunition had accompanied it, which, of course, were soon exhausted, and not easily replenished. During its fire, a daring attack was made on its position from the rear by natives, who succeeded in dislodging a party of the friendly Maoris. They were, however, themselves immediately driven back by Major Bridge, with a detachment of the 58th. A storming party was now, in absence of other means of attack, ordered to advance on the pah, provided with hatchets and axes for cutting away the palisading of the pah, and with ropes for pulling them down. They did so with intrepidity and ardour; but, on coming up to the stockade, it was found that the accessories required for entrance had all been thrown away, or left behind by those appointed to carry them. The consequence was, that, after heavy loss, the forlorn hope were obliged to fall back. The detachment kept their ground in spite of this repulse, and the movements began at length to take an air of greater discipline than they had hitherto worn. Some more heavy and efficient artillery was obtained from the Hazard, and an adequate supply of ammunition. A rising ground commanding the pah was then sought out and found, and the battery, being placed on it, compelled an early evacuation of the fortlet (so says a private letter, but the statement is not borne out by Colonel Despard's despatch) without the further loss of a man. The spoils of victory were four guns and the flag of the flag-staff hater. There were about 500 regulars and 100 militia-men encamped at the Waimate, in the immediate vicinity of the New Zealanders, and hostilities were again expected. Heki had received a ball in his thigh, and, although at first the wound was not dangerous, it was said to have become so by unskillful treatment, and consequently compelled him to give up the command to the old chief Koriti, the only man of importance left in Heki's force. The natives in other parts of the island were generally quiet and well-disposed, and it had even been reported that, through the intercession of Archdeacon Williams, Heki had submitted to our authority. This statement, however, is not correct.

By intelligence from Cook's Straits, to the 17th of May, we learn that an outbreak in that part of the island was apprehended. Whenever the government (says the *Sydney Herald*) attempt to give the settlers possession of the land, then will the scenes of the north be re-enacted in the south.

## FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

GREECE.—The Athens papers publish a despatch from Lord Aberdeen to Sir Edward Lyons, in which the British minister declares, on the part of English creditors, that he will insist on the strict execution of the treaty of 1832, which sets aside the revenues of Greece to the payment, before anything else, of the interest of the loan contracted by that government, and guaranteed by Great Britain, France, and Russia.

MOROCCO.—Advices from Tangier, of the 3rd inst. represent the Emperor of Morocco as being in great embarrassment, threatened by France for harbouring Abd-el-Kader, and by the Arab Emir, with a revolutionary invasion, for not being hearty against the Giaour. The Emperor was about to take the field with an army, to keep up the appearance of enforcing the treaty with France.

NARVAEZ'S HEALTH continues in a very unsatisfactory state. He looks like a corpse, has grown emaciated, and is subject to attacks of debility which often compel him to lean upon one of his aide-de-camps whilst walking. The principal features of his disorder are dyspepsia. Many people think he is suffering from the effects of poison; and this, I believe, is his own opinion. Of course, the anxieties of office, acting upon such an irritable disposition as Narvaez's, aggravate the malady, whatever it may be, under which he suffers. A strict regimen, shower-baths, and exercise, have been recommended by his medical advisers.—*Correspondent of the Morning Post*.

The Sultan has disarmed the Lebanon, and thereby incurred the anger of the protecting powers.

PANIC IN THE PARIS MONEY MARKET.—Last week there was a complete panic on the Bourse, and several parties have been proclaimed defaulters. Serious apprehensions were entertained for the stability of some parties. The *Constitutionnel*, in mentioning the failure of M. Falcon, one of the *agents de change*, says that his deficit amounts to about £100,000, and that, of that sum, Queen Christina of Spain is the sufferer to the tune of £48,000.

Letters from Vienna state that the soldiers were kept constantly in their barracks, under the apprehension that an *émeute* might arise in consequence of the scarcity of grain.

QUEEN CHRISTINA AND HER COOKS.—The *Clamor Publico* of Madrid, of the 11th, gravely relates the following:—"It is said that Queen Christina is well versed in the culinary art, and that, in her country parties, she likes to make herself acquainted with the culinary qualifications of the persons who accompany her. On a recent occasion, she required the Ministers of War, Justice, and Foreign Affairs, to cook each a dish in his own way. General Narvaez prepared a gaspacho (a kind of soup made with water, bread, oil, vinegar, milk, garlick, salt, and pepper). It was found that the garlick predominated too strongly. Senor Mayans prepared some chickens with tomato sauce, but they were smoked. Senor Martinez de la Rosa boiled some eggs, but they were hard. The royal family laughed heartily, it is said, at the want of skill of the ministerial cooks."—*Globe*.

CASSIUS M. CLAY AGAIN IN THE FIELD.—True to himself and his good purpose, Mr Clay has revived the *True American*; and, though obliged to print it in Cincinnati, has evinced his determination not to desert his field by dating it at Lexington. The appeal is of such length as to preclude its insertion in our columns; but it is a masterly and eloquent defence of himself and his conduct, and will probably convince the mob gentlemen of Lexington that they have not yet put an end to agitation and abolition.—*New York Evangelist*.

PRESIDENT POLK.—There are some traits of character so strongly marked in Mr Polk that they may be pronounced, in a measure, as peculiar. He places but little reliance on the professions of even his best friends. Whether this arises from jealousy and distrust, or from an overweening self-confidence, I know not; but such is the fact. He has no conscience-keeper. He retains within his own bosom, until the time for action arrives, his official as well as his personal secrets. In some cases this may be meritorious, but it may be carried to an unnecessary extreme. Many imagine they enjoy his confidence, but few possess it in the smallest degree. When, therefore, I hear of Mr Polk using hasty language, calculated to commit him on some great question, I listen to it with many grains of allowance, knowing him, as I do, to be a passionate, overbearing, but cautious man.—*Times Correspondent*.

FORTIFICATION OF THE FRENCH COAST.—Efforts are in progress to render Cherbourg impregnable (and it is nearly so already), and to fortify every port of France. Are your contemporaries aware that the innumerable floating breakwaters ordered, some of them actually in progress, and others contemplated for every port from Dunkirk to Bayonne, and from Perpignan to Toulon, have, in a military sense, defensive and offensive operations in view, in addition to the ordinary purposes of such constructions? At this moment, at La Ciotat, between Toulon and Marseilles, a company formed for the purpose are making the experiment. For Havre forty-eight sections are ordered. In fact, the whole of the Channel coast, including Trepot, is to be immediately fortified in this way; for that there is not a man in France who is not eternally occupied with calculating upon rivaling England at sea, and upon landing a desolating army on her coast.—*Times Correspondent*.

GRAIN RIOTS.—Letters from Ancona, of the 14th instant, state that some English merchants having made large purchases of grain in that place, the public are in a state of great alarm, and are endeavouring to get the exportation stopped. At Rimini the people are also in a state of commotion, and attacked some vessels in the harbour, loaded with grain, which they obliged the owners to discharge. In various parts of France—at Cherbourg, St Malo, Dinan, and other places, serious riots have already taken place from the same cause, and in other places the excitement is so great that apprehensions are entertained of an outbreak.

The police of Brussels (says the *Brussels Gazette*) last week made a seizure, at the shop of a *charcutier*, of seventy kilogrammes of horse flesh, in a state of putrefaction, which had been prepared for making Bologna sausages.

The French Chambers are convoked for the 27th of December.

HORRIBLE DISCOVERY.—The *Univers* states that some masons, in demolishing a house in the Rue St Nicholas d'Antil, discovered nine human skeletons. It was the opinion of the professional men who have inspected those remains, that the remotest crime (for the skeletons were those of murdered persons, no doubt) must have been committed fifteen years since, and the most recent fifteen months ago. The person who inhabited the house, which has for many years been known as a house of bad fame, has been arrested.

A new sect has lately set itself up in Persia, at the head of which is a merchant who had returned from a pilgrimage to Mecca, and proclaimed himself a successor of the Prophet. Four of his disciples were seized by the "orthodox" authorities, and led by a string, attached to a hole in the nose, through the streets of Shiraz, their beards being first burnt off, and their faces blackened.

A French nobleman recently brought from Belgium, for interment in the family vault, the remains of some of his ancestors, long since dead. The custom-house officers weighed the coffins—made a deduction for the wood—and charged him so much a pound for the “old bones.”

By the last advices from the West Indies we learn that the legislatures of Barbadoes and Jamaica had been opened for their sessions; in Jamaica, Lord Elgin spoke cheerfully of progressive improvement; and Sir Charles Grey declared the other colony to be in a most prosperous condition.

**HEALTH OF THE LORD CHANCELLOR.**—Rumours having been spread abroad as to the serious illness of the Lord Chancellor, the *Times* has obtained by inquiry the following authentic information:—His Lordship felt rather indisposed on last Friday se'nnight; he was, however, on the day following not unable to travel, and went from town, accompanied by one of his secretaries, to Turville park, near Henley-upon-Thames, where he still remains. Shortly after his lordship reached home his indisposition assumed so serious a character, that Mr Brooks, a surgeon, who resides at Henley, and who is the ordinary medical attendant of the family at Turville park, was sent for. That gentleman considered the case to be of so grave a character as to require the advice of a physician, and Dr Locock was forthwith summoned to his lordship's bedside. During the whole of Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday (the 16th, 17th, and 18th of this month) the malady under which the noble lord laboured assumed a very alarming character, and a general impression began to spread that there was no chance of his lordship's recovery. It appears that his illness arose principally from obstruction of the bowels, an ailment by which he has on former occasions been assailed. The remedies necessary for repelling an attack of this nature have usually a tendency to debilitate the patient, and, moreover, the effects of the disorder itself lead to great exhaustion; so that their combined operation upon the constitution of one who has reached the advanced age of 73 could not fail to have produced most distressing effects. Nevertheless his lordship's indisposition yielded to medical treatment on Tuesday; and though greatly enfeebled, and able to take very little food, his case manifested symptoms of improvement on Wednesday. On Thursday and Friday he was much better; on Saturday last he was able to get out of bed; and since then his lordship has been gradually advancing towards convalescence. He is himself cheerful and sanguine enough to express a hope that on Thursday se'nnight, which will be the first seal day, it possibly may be in his power to take his seat in the Court of Chancery.

**HOUSES FOR THE MILLION.**—A project for the improvement of the condition of the industrious poor who have been expelled from the crowded localities of St. Giles's, Lambeth, Westminster, Wapping, Spitalfields, and in many other equally populous districts of the metropolis, with respect to their habitations, has been set on foot, and it seems to be one of fair pretensions and promise. The plan proposed is to build villages in the surrounding neighbourhood of the metropolis, sufficiently distant to ensure a pure atmosphere and healthy soil, on which dwellings may be erected at a moderate price, yet so connected with the metropolis by distinct lines of railway, and stations to each, as to leave no portions of London more than one mile distant from some one station; thus bringing the daily place of occupation of the working-classes within ten minutes' distance of their residence, and enabling them to resort to the one and the other, and the same order and facility as though still inhabiting the precincts of the great city itself. It is added that each village should contain about 5000 cottage residences, covering 500 acres of land; and that, taking the probable average of the inhabitants of each cottage at seven in number, it will give to each village 35,000 inhabitants, making a total population, supposing the ten villages to be in time erected, of 350,000 removed from the dens of the metropolis. It is contemplated to erect only ten cottages to an acre, which, built in pairs, will give to each residence a good garden—will secure perfect ventilation, and incite the occupant to industry, regularity, and neatness.—*Morning Post*.

**NAVAL SQUADRONS IN THE PACIFIC.**—The Americans are rapidly reinforcing their squadron in the Pacific. Adding their vessels in the Chinese seas, they will assemble a force of six frigates (each as large as an English 74-gun ship), five corvettes, one brig, and one schooner. On the English side, Admiral Seymour, at or about this time, is near the coast of Oregon, with one ship of 80, one of 50, one of 18, and one of 16 guns.—*Chronicle*.

**THE DUNCOMBE TESTIMONIAL.**—On the subscriptions to the above closing, the central committee tendered the amount received to the honourable member for Finsbury, which he declined, saying, “that he would never receive pecuniary remuneration for any services rendered by him in the cause of civil and religious liberty, and in favour of an extension of the people's rights.” He added, that if presented to him he would hand the sum over to two popular associations. The central committee, however, subsequently determined upon appropriating the sum to the purchase of a piece of plate, value £1,000, which will be presented to the hon. gentleman in December next. Amongst the subscribers' names stand those of two Conservatives, Mr D'Israeli, M.P., and Mr Ferrand, M.P.

**LORD ELLENBOROUGH,** it appears, cannot gain re-admission to the Cabinet. If Wellington has beaten Peel, and kept out corn, Peel has also beaten Wellington and kept out Ellenborough.

## IRELAND.

## THE POTATO DISEASE.

The Dublin correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle*, writing on Saturday, says:—“The reports received yesterday and this day are, for the most part, fully as unfavourable as any that have yet appeared. From almost all quarters, and from persons of every political hue, the same lamentable intelligence is conveyed, that the potato disease exists in every part of the country; that although in some places the disease has apparently ceased, yet in many others it is still spreading, and that the loss already is tremendous in amount.”

At the meeting of the Mansion-house committee on Friday, Dr Tuite, of Dunbeg Dispensary, near Killee, county Clare, reported to the committee that dysentery had commenced in his neighbourhood (having from eleven to twelve patients in one day) from the disease in the potatoes. He also stated that “low fever” had commenced in consequence of the poor people not having enough of wholesome food to eat. James M'Ternan, Mountallen, county Leitrim, stated that he had within the last few days traversed the counties of Sligo, Leitrim, Cavan, and Roscommon, in all of which he had property; and he positively asserted that in the county Sligo there would not be one good potato in the month of January. The people at present were feeling the pangs of hunger. In the latter three counties fully one-third of the crop was lost. Mr M'Ternan offered a cheque for £300 as his subscription towards any fund that might be raised for the relief of the poor.

Accounts from Dublin, on Sunday, mention no indication of improvement. “There is still no marked variation in the accounts daily received respecting the probable amount of damage done to the potato crops. In some districts, the alarm appears to be subsiding; but in others, particularly in the west, where the disease did not show itself until the season was far advanced, considerable excitement still prevails.”

The proverbial slothfulness of the Irish labourer is strikingly evinced in the fact that, in only few cases, are measures being taken for the preservation of the potato crop. “It is difficult,” says the writer, “to induce the people to adopt any new methods; and the evil day of apprehended scarcity being still distant, under the most unfavourable circumstances, by many months, it is to be feared that they will not be provident of that which, although diseased, may yet be turned to good account.”

**THE NEW GOVERNMENT COMMISSION.**—The commissioners lately appointed by government for considering all matters connected with the failure of the potato crop in Ireland, held their first meeting on Thursday, at their office in Dublin Castle. The following gentlemen constituted the commission:—The Right Hon. Edward Lucas, chairman; Commissary-General, Sir Randolph Routh; Lieutenant-Colonel Jones, R.E., chairman of the Board of Public Works; Colonel M'Gregor, inspector-general of constabulary; Sir James Dombain, inspector of the Coast Guard; E. Twisleton, Esq., poor law commissioner; Theobald M'Kenna, Esq., Q.C., assistant under-secretary; and Professor Kane, principal of the Cork College. Secretary of the commission, Captain J. P. Kennedy. The commissioners are to apply themselves to the best mode of obtaining depôts of provisions in those districts where distress is likely to be most severely felt, in consequence of the failure of the potato crop. As yet, nothing of a decided character has been done; but the commissioners have resolved upon obtaining as accurate returns as possible of the extent of the failure of the potato crop, and of the quantity of grain in the country.

**RESOLUTIONS OF THE MANSION-HOUSE COMMITTEE.**—At the meeting of the committee on Wednesday, Mr O'Connell brought forward a series of resolutions on the failure of the potato crop, the prospects of the country, and the conduct of the government at this crisis, which led to much discussion; and, after some verbal alterations, suggested by members of the committee, the resolutions, eight in number, were adopted. As they are of considerable importance, I shall, if possible, obtain a copy before the departure of the mail. The resolutions generally declare that the potato disease is still progressing to a very alarming extent; that more than one-third of the crop has been already destroyed, whilst no human means can be relied upon to save the remainder; that famine and disease are impending, and are sure to afflict the country, unless timely relief and precautions be adopted; that the conduct of the government in delaying the meeting of parliament at such a time is deserving of the severest reprehension, as their inactivity and apathy have periled the lives of hundreds of thousands. One of the resolutions denounces the iniquitous corn law, maintained by a selfish aristocracy, and another declares the necessity of an address to the Queen, praying her Majesty to direct that prompt and effectual measures should be taken for the safety of the Irish people.

An aggregate meeting of the citizens of Dublin is to be convened by the Lord Mayor at the request of the committee.

**APPREHENDED POTATO RIOTS IN GALWAY.**—The *Limerick Chronicle* says, “In consequence of riots apprehended in Galway by the peasantry preventing potatoes being shipped for England, two companies and a field officer of the 30th regiment are held in readiness to march from Castlebar for Galway, to reinforce the two companies to four.”

**THE IRISH CATHOLIC BISHOPS AND THE NEW COLLEGES.**—The Roman Catholic bishops sat in con-

clave last week, to consider, amongst other things, the new government education scheme. “Their meeting,” says the *Times* correspondent, “has broken up in the most admired disorder. Dissension upon the unhappy Colleges bill rages as violently as ever; and until the holy see interposes its authority, and pronounces its fiat either *pro* or *con*, the godless scheme, there can be no truce between the powerful parties into which the ‘faithful’ are now obviously divided. Archbishops Crolly and M'Hale have become quite the heroes of this politico-religious drama; and it remains to be seen whether the caution and moderation of the one, ‘backed by English influence,’ or the turbulent, but perhaps honest, fanaticism of the other, will find most favour at the court of Rome.” The following resolution, proposed by Dr M'Hale, and seconded by Dr M'Nally, was carried by a majority of 12 to 5:—

“Resolved—That the archbishops and bishops of Ireland having resolved that the measures of academical education proposed by the government was dangerous to faith and morals, while the securities which they required for the removal of those dangers were refused by the government and the legislature; we, as guardians of the faith in Ireland, and anxious to preserve the unity of the spirit in the bonds of peace, lay before the Holy Father our former resolutions, and their application to the act in its present form, together with the grounds on which those resolutions were founded, in order that we may all receive the decision of His holiness, and recognise the voice of Peter in the person of his successor.”

Archbishops Crolly and Murray, and Bishops Ryan, M'Gettigan, Browne, and Denvir entered a protest of dissent against it:—

“Because we consider that the following resolution, proposed and supported by us, is a more accurate statement of the case, and more respectful to the Holy See.

“Resolved—That the bill for academical education in Ireland, proposed by the British government, together with the memorial of the assembled prelates in May last, and the bill in its amended form, be submitted to the Holy See for its consideration and decision.”

The following resolution was then unanimously adopted:—

“That our resolutions, adopted at different periods, condemning a state provision for our clergy, be now republished, in order to inform our people that our opinions on the subject are unchanged and unchangeable.”

Dr M'Gettigan is a recent adherent to the minority on the Colleges bill; and the opponents of the bill are excessively annoyed at his defection.—Archbishop Beresford intends to bestow £1,000 on each of the three new colleges, towards the foundation of divinity schools, for the instruction of students of the established church.

**THE O'CONNELL TRIBUTE.**—The annual collection of the O'Connell tribute took place on Sunday week, at the various Roman Catholic chapels throughout the country. In Dublin and the suburbs the amount reported, at four o'clock, was £2,300. This is larger than the average of years since 1839 for the metropolitan district. The sum netted in the county of Cork amounted to £763 18s. 2d., being a trifling excess over last year's collections. The city of Limerick yielded £290 19s. 4d.; the town of Clonmel, £220; the town of Tipperary, over £70, and a contingent of £10 extra is promised; “Cashel of the Kings,” £80; Carrick-on-Suir, £100; Thurles, £85; Templemore, £70; the town of Wexford, £100. It is anticipated that the whole amount will this year considerably exceed that of the past year, which realised £20,000.

**REPRESENTATION OF ANTRIM.**—The *Northern Whig* states that Sir Horace Seymour, a near relative of the Marquis of Hertford, is about to offer himself as a candidate for the representation of the county of Antrim, in the room of the late Mr Irvine.

**ATTEMPT TO MURDER SIR F. HOPKINS.**—The *Evening Post* contains the following:—“Mullingar, Nov. 19.—An outrage of a very daring character was perpetrated within three miles of this town last night. About half-past eleven o'clock, Sir Francis Hopkins, Bart., of Rochfort, was returning home, after dining with his neighbour, Colonel Caulfield, of Bloomfield; and, having descended from his phaeton, was in the act of knocking at the hall door, when a shot was fired at him, and several slugs grazed his temple and forehead; the remainder of the charge, consisting of a ball and upwards of a dozen slugs, lodging in the door. Sir Francis immediately, he states, rushed at two men whom he perceived at a little distance, one having a gun, the other a pistol, both of whom, after inflicting several severe blows on Sir Francis, succeeded in knocking him down and effecting a retreat, leaving behind a hat and coat, which they lost in the struggle. This day, a man named Seery, living at Dysart, several miles from Rochfort, and some time since ejected from the estate, was arrested on suspicion by order of Sir Francis, and, we understand, the affair will be immediately investigated by the magistrates. Sir Francis, we are happy to learn, has sustained no serious injury.” Several murders in various parts of the country are detailed in the papers.

The largest export of corn from the Irish ports to the English market ever recorded took place last week, having exceeded 100,000 barrels of grain, of which 70,000 were from Limerick, and other southern ports.—*Limerick Chronicle*.

**THE COURT.**—The royal family continue, in all respects, in excellent health. The Prince Consort and his guests frequently enjoy the pleasures of shooting and hare hunting.—Friday was the birthday of the Princess Royal. The Duchess of Kent observed her usual custom for such occasions, of a morning visit to congratulate the parents of the Princess; and there was a banquet at the Castle in the evening.—The court left for Osborne house, Isle of Wight, yesterday.

## RAILWAY NOTABILIA.

The announcements of new railway projects continue to crowd the *London Gazette*.

The entire number of new notices for Irish railways, in the *Dublin Gazette*, now amounts to 112.

We learn from a gentleman of some authority in such matters, that it is understood in certain quarters to be the intention of the government to proceed as promptly as possible, when parliament meets, with the various railway bills relating to Ireland, and consequently to leave over till another session the new projects relating to England.—*Shareholder*.

A correspondent of the *Times* mentions, that the safety of a train on the South Western railway was endangered, a few days since, from a strange cause. Two elephants were conveyed from London; the animals became restive; and near Wimbledon, on an embankment, they grew so outrageous as to smash the ages in which they were confined. The passengers were not released from their terrors until the train arrived at Wimbledon, where the carriage of the elephants was detached. The letter-writer complains, that such dangerous passengers ought not to be conveyed by any but a luggage-train.

The directors of the London and Brighton railway have issued the following excellent regulations for the better maintenance of discipline and vigilance:—

1st. That every one in the service of the Company will be examined from time to time, to see that he has carefully read the regulations relating to his department, and that he understands and remembers them.

2nd. Any neglect of the Company's regulations will be rigidly punished, even though it should not lead to an accident.

3rd. A donation of £25 will be presented to the provident fund for every quarter during which no accident occurs on the line.

4th. With a view to enabling you to profit by the experience of others, you will receive from time to time a short statement of any railway accident, wherever it may occur, pointing out the cause of the accident, and the best means of prevention.

**ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH BETWEEN DOVER AND CALAIS.**—Mr Cook, who has recently been making experiments for carrying the telegraph between Dover and Calais, speaks with great confidence of his ultimate success. His only fear is, that it may be injured by the dragging of ships.—*Globe*.

The different lines uniting at Leeds have agreed to contribute £100,000 each towards the establishment of a central station.

Moonlight and lantern excursions are becoming common among gentlemen of the chain and cross staff on lands where surveys are forbidden, and where mandates have been issued against their movements.

**THE LATE ACCIDENT ON THE MIDLAND RAILWAY.**—Another death resulting from the accident on the Midland line, near Barnsley, on the 20th ult., took place at Leeds on Wednesday morning. We reported at the time of the accident that in addition to the serious injuries received by Mr Commissioner Boteler, which proved fatal, police sergeant John Stubbs, of the Leeds detective force, suffered a compound fracture of the leg. Although the operation of setting the leg was satisfactorily performed, the case has terminated fatally, and he died on Wednesday morning, at five o'clock, leaving a family of six children wholly unprovided for. On Thursday an inquest was opened, but adjourned to Monday. We are sorry to add, that another of the injured passengers is yet in a very precarious state—we allude to Mr Andrews, sharebroker, of Leeds, who was so much hurt in the accident that he has been unable to be removed from the Normanton hotel, and, to say the least of it, has made little progress towards recovery. It is now rather more than a month since this sad occurrence took place, and this gentleman yet lingers in a very doubtful condition.

The *Railway Record* states that Mr Hudson proposes to unite the Eastern Counties and North London Junction.

A line, of 170 French leagues, from Petersburg to Port Baltic, is in contemplation.

**RAILWAY TRAFFIC.**—From our official returns, says the *Railway Chronicle*, it appears that the amount of traffic for the last week, on nearly 1,800 miles of railway, was £130,479; being an increase over the corresponding week of last year of £30,254.

**THE NEW SCHEMES.**—Of the 500 and odd schemes, we doubt whether a half can give their notices—whether a half of that half will be able to deposit their plans; and of those that do we may say that not a half of them will pass standing orders; and many of them will then be duplicate lines. Last year there were about 300 schemes—of which 248 went before the Board of Trade; and 113, the greater portion branches and deviations, passed. This year there are upwards of 500, most of them new lines—and it will be well if fifty get their act.—*Herapath*.

**ENGLISH SHAREHOLDERS IN FRENCH LINES.**—The English speculators in French railways have, says the *Réforme*, realised and taken across the straits of Dover the sum of 40,000,000 francs.

**SURVEYORS.**—The town crier of Swansea, on Thursday last, was busily offering 5s. reward for the recovery of "a railway surveyor of large size," supposed to have stolen or strayed from his colleagues, who could not conveniently without him proceed on their route to Brecon. At Lincoln a ruse was resorted to for getting surveys across the property of a refractory landowner. A surveyor held him in parley whilst his assistants performed their work, and then coolly told him his refusal was of no consequence, as the necessary survey was completed.

**MR HUDSON AT SIR R. PEEL'S.**—The *Sun* gives currency to rather an absurd story, about Mr Hudson, when at Sir R. Peel's table, having attacked the Premier's opinions, relative to combining the greatest velocity with the greatest safety:—"A proceeding so unusual and contrary to custom in good society, and so out of etiquette at the table of the Prime Minister, as to induce a very cold reception from the other visitors and the head of the house."

The *Chronicle* states that the Eastern Counties Company have offered to convey a mail by every train gratis.

Several "provisionals" (says *Herapath*) have made a trip to Boulogne, no doubt to escape the rigours of an English winter.

**THE ATMOSPHERIC v. THE LOCOMOTIVE.**—We were lucky enough to see a race between the atmospheric and the locomotive; and we believe that any of our readers who leave London-bridge station at twenty minutes past two, and take an atmospheric ticket, may do the same. We were standing at the Forest-hill station, preparing to start, when it was announced that the Dover express train was in sight. Immediately we (the atmospheric) made preparations to start, and were just in the act of starting from rest when the locomotive train "whisked" past us at, probably, some thirty-five miles an hour. We started; but, before we got into motion at any velocity, the Dover train was a mile ahead of us, and was evidently gaining rapidly in speed. However, on we went like a whirlwind, and it soon became evident we were gaining on our rival. Three or four minutes decided the race. We passed the express train at a rate exceeding her own by fifteen or twenty miles an hour. Our velocity could not be less than sixty miles an hour. It was easily and steadily maintained, and we were over the Brighton viaduct, and considerably beyond it, before the Dover reached it. But, considerably before this time, the breaks were put on and the vacuum destroyed by the valve to avoid danger in running upon the workmen round the sharp curves; and, when we reached Croydon, in six minutes and three quarters, it was found that the journey, as a whole, had occupied more time than it has frequently been performed in.—*Railway Chronicle*.

**THE CLEANSING OF THE CITY.**—A numerous deputation from the Association for the promotion of Improved Paving, Cleansing, and Drainage, waited on the Commissioners of Sewers for the city of London, on Tuesday, and submitted a proposal to employ thirty men, at the expense of the society, in cleaning a considerable area, including the Bank, the Royal Exchange, and Guildhall, for a period of two months, in order to show how cheaply and perfectly it can be done. The Commissioners accepted the proposal, subject to the consent of the contractors for the time being. The chairman of the commission, Mr Peacock, also informed the deputation, that the commissioners are engaged in trying a new fire-escape, which seems to be very efficient.

**THE YARMOUTH MURDER.**—Dick, one of the witnesses on the Yarmouth murder trial, has made a statement to the magistrates, on oath, that Yarham, after the trial, confessed to her his implication in the deed, not merely as an accessory after the fact, but as a principle. Where he is now, no one knows.

**THE GLASGOW THEATRE,** a very splendid building, with all its valuable scenery, internal decoration, and the theatrical appurtenances, has been entirely destroyed by fire, with the exception of the walls, which still remain. The origin of the fire is not known. The theatre itself is valued at several thousand pounds, but Mr Anderson, the proprietor (well known as the "Wizard of the North"), we believe, is fully insured in the York, West of England, and Sun fire offices.

**THE POTATO DISEASE** is, according to the latest accounts, still extending its ravages in all parts of England. We have conversed with, and seen communications from, farmers from various localities of Northumberland and Durham, says the *Tyne Mercury*, and all concur in representing the march of the disease as fearful. In some cases, where the potato has been taken up, and pitted apparently sound, the whole, after a few weeks, has been found in a state of decomposition.

**THE CONDEMNED SLAVERS.**—A respite was received on Friday morning from the Secretary of State, respiting the condemned pirates till the 15th of December. The tidings were communicated to the prisoners by John Milford, of Coaver, Esq., who, speaking Spanish, has, at the desire of the High Sheriff, frequently visited them, and manifested the greatest attention and humanity to these unhappy men. The prisoners have been attended by the Rev. Thomas Costelloe, Catholic priest of Tiverton, and Dr De Lima, of London, is soon expected, to render them his very valuable services. The prisoners are all in good health; Serva, who was dreadfully diseased, having, by the medical treatment and discipline, been restored to health, and his stern spirit has yielded somewhat beneath the effects of confinement and reflection.—*Western Times*.

**HER MAJESTY** has permitted the College of Chemists to assume the title of the Royal College of Chemistry. His Royal Highness Prince Albert has accepted the office of president of that institution, and presented it with the donation of £100.

**LADY HOLLAND** has left an annuity of £2,000 to Lord John Russell, as an expression of the high respect which her ladyship entertained for the noble lord. On his lordship's death, the annuity will be equally divided among the children of her late ladyship's daughter.—*Observer*.

## MR O'CONNELL'S CONDUCT AS A LANDLORD.

At and in the neighbourhood of Cahirciveen and Derrynane Mr Daniel O'Connell possesses an income from land of about £3,000 a year. A small portion of this is his own fee-simple property; another small portion he rents on lease renewable for ever, and about two-thirds he holds on terminable leases, under the Dublin College, Mr Hartop, Mr Bland, and Lord Cork. He is, in fact, for two-thirds of his property a middleman, living on a profit-rent derived from small tenants: and we will see presently how he manages them. The bulk of his property is held on a lease for his own life. With his private affairs, however, I have nothing to do, nor will I meddle with them, though I had queer stories enough related to me. I have no business with anything but the manner in which, by his treatment to his sub-tenants, he benefits or injures his countrymen and the country. A gentleman named Butler, residing at Waterville, mentions a lease of land, let by his father to the father of Mr Daniel O'Connell. When old Mr O'Connell died there were not twelve tenants upon it, and in 1841, when the land came out of lease (fifteen years afterwards) there were fifty-four tenants upon it. His general character as a landlord or middleman is, that any tenant who applies to him may have leave to erect a cabin where he pleases. He permits sub-division to any extent. This wins a certain degree of popularity; but the land under lease by him is in consequence in the most frightful state of over-population. The competition for land is therefore intense, and they will offer almost any rent for the most miserable fragment of land. In this condition they are left in a total state of neglect. They have no agricultural schools; no encouragement; none to lead or to guide them, and the poor creatures are left to sub-divide their land and to multiply, and to blunder on, until, in the words of Mr Keane Mahony, "their principal feature is distress."

I entered several of the cottages at a place called Derrynane Beg, within a mile from Derrynane. The distress of the people is horrible. There is not a pane of glass in the parish, nor a window of any kind in half the cottages. Some have got a hole in the wall for light, with a board to stop it up. In not one in a dozen is there a chair to sit upon, or anything whatever in the cottages beyond an iron pot and a rude bedstead with some straw on it; and not always that. In many of them the smoke is coming out of the doorway, for they have no chimneys. In one that I entered the door was taken off the hinges and made a table of, by placing it on two turf-baskets. Unaided and unguided, the poor creatures are in the lowest degree of squalid poverty I have yet seen, and this within sight of Derrynane house. As one of the tenants told me, "they were eating one another's heads off, and if they did not get some assistance they would starve and the gaols would be full." Wretched as are the tenants on the Marquis of Conyngham's property in Donegal, their condition is fully equalled by the condition of the tenantry of Derrynane. The "hissing and the screeching" is thus fully accounted for. In future, however, it will be remembered that amongst the most neglectful landlords who are a curse to Ireland, Daniel O'Connell ranks first—that on the estate of Daniel O'Connell are to be found the most wretched tenants that are to be seen in all Ireland. If a middleman is execrated, as a useless drone who squeezes the very life's-blood out of the miserable tenants, the name of Daniel O'Connell will not be forgotten. Though not the worst among middlemen, he lives by the system.

Adjoining the cottages on this property are neatly thatched and roomy cottages on the Marquis of Lansdowne's estate, who takes some pains to encourage his tenantry.

In fact, wherever there is ordinary attention paid by any landlord to his tenants there are signs of improvement and comfort. Wherever there is a middleman, and utter neglect of the people, and subdivision is allowed, there the misery which marks the Derrynane property is observable.—*Times' Commissioner*.

**THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE DISCOURAGEMENT OF DUELLING** now numbers upwards of five hundred members, all of whom, in becoming members, have virtually declared that they will abstain from duelling. Amongst its members are, the Duke of Manchester, Lords Westminster, Eldon, Effingham, Burlington, Robert Grosvenor, Teignmouth, Glenelg, Stourton, Arundel and Surrey, Ebrington, Sandon, Ashley, and Morpeth; Sir Robert Inglis, Sir Thos. Baring, Sir Harry Verner, Sir Launcelot Shadwell, Mr. William Couper, M.P., Mr. Childers, M.P., Mr. Pusey, M.P., and Colonel Verner, M.P. Duelling is a vice of fashion, and when such names as these are arrayed against it, there is hope of fashion setting in for its cure. It is a remarkable fact that not less than 280 of the members are officers of the army and navy, including seventeen admirals and twenty general officers. The Association has just published a second report.

**EARLDOM OF BATH.**—The *Morning Post* puts forth the following paragraph among its personal news, as an advertisement:—"I, the Earl of Bath, heretofore known as Douglas Kinnaird Pulteney, Esq., do hereby give notice that, from this day and hereafter, I shall assume and use the style, titles, and dignity, of the late Earl of Bath, Viscount Pulteney, and Baron of Heydon; which I hold by prescriptive and inalienable right of hereditary descent. (Signed) BATH. Dated the 13th day of November, 1845. 4, Parliament street, Whitehall."

## EVERYBODY'S COLUMN.

There is, or lately was, a law in our statute book making it highly penal to "harbour a hobgoblin!"

Why is an extravagant housekeeper like a caterpillar? Because she makes the butter-fly.

Why is a person who never lays a wager as bad as a regular gambler? Because he is no better.

The Germans are seldom afflicted with consumption, and this is attributed to the strength their lungs acquire by exercise in vocal music.

The other day, at Edinburgh market, good wheat was selling at 86s., and trash at 34s. The bad, however, as well as the good, influenced the averages.

**CHESNUTS FROM OAK.**—The *Hingham Patriot* says, that a chesnut engrafted upon the oak is said to be very productive. A recent experiment has proved this, and it is deemed important to agriculturists.

The Pope is said to be gradually dying of a cancer in the nose.

A novel mode of "bill distributing" was last week adopted in the metropolis. Balloons were sent up at noonday, which, at various altitudes, discharged innumerable notices of a new publication, to be picked up on alighting in various parts of London.

**NEWS FOR FATHER MATHEW.**—There are 557 licensed public-houses and 41 beer shops, at present in Norwich.—*Norfolk News*.

A woman, named Simms, the wife of a market-gardener at Kingsholm, and a notorious drunkard, was found, a few days since, sitting in her chair, quite dead, from the effects of liquor.

It is stated that government have resolved on making a great harbour of refuge at Dover; to be commenced at an early period.

No fewer than thirty scientific and literary societies in the metropolis commence their season, with but one or two exceptions, during the present month.

It is said that the common duck of the poultry yard, if fed while fattening copiously upon the top of the celery plant, will attain a juiciness and a flavour that must call forth unqualified approbation from every epicure.

An English watchmaker, named Symington, has invented a clock, the motive power of which is the dropping of water. It requires no winding up, and but little attention, and is said to be a very successful experiment. It is patented.

**LEGAL PERSPICUITY.**—In Haddock's Chancery, is the following specimen of legal botheration:—"When a person is bound to do a thing, and he does what may enable him to do the thing, he is supposed, in equity, to do it with a view of doing what he is bound to do."

Notice has been given of an intention to apply for parliamentary powers to light with gas the whole of London, and also several towns in Surrey, Kent, Hertford, Bedford, Buckingham, Northampton, Leicester, and Derby!

The new Catholic cathedral at Montreal will accommodate no fewer than 15,000 persons. The cost of building it will be 600,000 dollars. The height of the tower is 214 feet, and the internal decorations are magnificent.

Wanstead park, once the celebrated seat of the Earl of Mornington, is now converted into a brick-field. When the whole of the brick earth is exhausted, the site will be covered with elegant villas.—*Chelmsford Chronicle*.

There are now residing in Lowell two worthy and highly respectable bookbinders, who are twin brothers—they look, act, and dress alike—were each married on the same day to twin sisters, who also look, act, and dress alike. They all live in one house, and in imitation of some editors, say "our" wife, &c.

**PREACHING FOR HIS OWN BODY.**—A Massachusetts clergyman says that a slave who is a minister of the gospel, and has charge of the flock of Christ in St Louis, was lately in his pulpit begging money to buy his own body! "He is bright, shrewd, and very respectable as a preacher."

**THE PRICE OF DIAMONDS.**—In consequence of the discovery of a very rich diamond mine in the province of Bahia (of which an account is going the round of the papers), the supply of diamonds has been so greatly increased during the last year, that the price has fallen 50 per cent., and is likely to fall still lower, so that the ladies will be enabled to indulge their taste for this kind of luxury with less damage to their husbands' purses than formerly.

**SAXON REVENGE.**—"England's weakness," says Mr O'Connell, "is Ireland's opportunity." We would reverse the maxim. Ireland's weakness is the opportunity of England, and we hope that England will take it—to help her. When her potatoes are gone let us give her bread. But let us take especial care that it shall be, literally, bread. Let us relieve her in kind; but not trust her with a penny of cash; at least while her agitator keeps a begging box.—*Punch*.

**THE COLLIER AT KIRK.**—A collier entered the kirk of Lochgelly, the other Sunday, when the minister, in his sermon, made some observations about the capture of Jericho. The collier fell asleep until the kirk was going out. When on his way home one of his neighbours called out, "Whaur ha'e ye been this day, Archy?" "Ah! whaur do ye think? but at the capture of Jericho." "An hoo did ye come on, Archy?" "Ah, lad, I fell asleep; and they had Jericho captured, and were singing and rejoicing when I wakened."—*Fife Herald*.

## Religious Intelligence.

**CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF NORTH WALES.**—At a meeting of delegates from the six counties of North Wales, recently held at Denbigh, to take into consideration the best plan to clear the debts now remaining upon the Independent chapels in their respective districts, amongst other things, it was proposed to make one general effort, for two years, in Wales, towards this worthy object, and not to countenance any minister going to England, during that period, on a begging excursion; but that, at the end of the two years, it would be desirable to apply to England, Scotland, and Ireland, for aid in this great work. The delegates from the different counties are as follows:—Anglesea, Messrs Jones, of Amlwch, and Thomas, of Beaumaris. Carnarvonshire, Messrs Williams, of Carnarvon; Griffiths, of Bethel; Ellis, of Rhoslan; and Ambrose, of Porth Madog. Merionethshire, Mr Jones, of Dolgellau. Montgomeryshire, Messrs Morgan, of Llanvyllin, and Roberts, of Llanbrynmair. Flintshire, Messrs Pugh, of Mostyn, and Hughes, of Holywell. Denbighshire, Messrs Price, of Denbigh, and Francis, of Ruthen. Liverpool, Messrs Rees and Pierce.

**BINGLEY.**—The Independent chapel at this place, having been enlarged and considerably improved in internal appearance, was re-opened for divine service on Sunday, Oct. 26th, and following days, when sermons were preached by Messrs J. Waddington, Stockport; J. Fox, Leeds; S. Davidson, L.L.D., Lancashire Independent college, near Manchester; W. B. Stephenson, Wesleyan minister, Salford; J. Scott, Cleckheaton; and H. Dowson, Baptist minister, Bradford. The collections amounted to nearly £100, which, with subscriptions, make a total of about £450 towards defraying the cost of enlargement.

**KENTISH-TOWN CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL**, after being closed for two months, for necessary repairs and alterations, was re-opened on the 12th instant, when Dr Morison preached in the morning, and Dr Archer in the evening. On the following Sabbath, Mr C. F. Vardy, A.M., preached in the morning, and Mr James Stratten in the evening. The sums collected and promised on these occasions amounted to £228 4s. 10d.

**CONCERT FOR PRAYER.**—A concert for prayer, similar to that proposed by the Congregational Union, has been agreed upon by the Free Church, to be held from January 4th to 11th inclusive.

## BIRTHS.

Nov. 18, at Tottenham, the lady of W. A. HEDDY, Esq., of a son.

Nov. 19, at Boston, the wife of Mr JOHN HAWKLEY, minister, of a son.

Nov. 19, the wife of Mr C. DUKES, A.M., minister, of a son.

## MARRIAGES.

Nov. 4, by license, at Mr Stratten's chapel, Paddington, by Dr F. A. Cox, Mr WILLIAM JONES, of Frome, minister, to AMELIA, widow of the late Mr INNES, of Norwich.

Nov. 13, at Claremont chapel, Pentonville, by the pastor, Mr John Blackburn, Mr THOMAS JOHNSON, silversmith, London, to SARAH, eldest daughter of Mr G. WINTER, of Brentwood.

Nov. 14, at Merton chapel, Shropshire, by Mr Thomas Jones, Minister, Mr EVAN JONES, minister of Sharon chapel, Tredegar, Monmouthshire, to CATHERINE, third daughter of Mr JOHN SANEY, Rorington hall, Shropshire.

Nov. 15, at the Baptist chapel, Acerrington, by Mr J. Harbottle, minister, Mr JAMES HENSON, Baptist minister, at Rhoydes Hall, near Huddersfield, to ANGEAL, the youngest daughter of the late Mr Wm ECCLES, Acerrington.

Nov. 18, at Denmark-place chapel, Camberwell, by Dr Alexander Fletcher, EDWARD CARLILE, Esq., of West Brixton, to MARIA LOUISA, second daughter of Benjamin WILSON, Esq., Upper Tulse hill.

Nov. 19, at the Independent chapel, Castle street, Great Tooting, by the pastor, Mr James Buckpitt, Mr JOHN DENBOW BASTARD, artificial flymaker, to Miss JANE EVANS, daughter of the late Mr Evans, of Plymouth, shipbuilder, both of Great Tooting.

Nov. 20, at Russell-street chapel, Dover, Mr CHATE to Miss ANN PEARCE, both of Dover.

Nov. 20, at Stapleford Abbots, Essex, JAMES DAY, eldest son of Charles WILKINSON, Esq., of Great Baddow, to MARIA, second daughter of Mr Richard STEVENS, of the former place.

## DEATHS.

Nov. 16, in her 82nd year, at the house of Mr N. Ling, St Saviour's, Norwich, Mrs MARY FOX, widow. The deceased was mother of W. J. Fox, Esq., the celebrated Anti-corn-law lecturer, and author of the letters in the *League* newspaper, signed "A Norwich Weaver Boy."

Nov. 17, aged 52, at George square, Edinburgh, WILLIAM MILLER, Esq. He was a Dissenter, and a Christian in the best sense of the term, exemplifying in his daily life and conversation the purity and excellence of the doctrines which he professed. In politics he was a steady Reformer. Religious liberty held as high a place as political in his affections. He was a zealous Voluntary, and acted for some years as secretary to the Central Board of Dissenters.

Nov. 18, at Tottenham-court road, Mr ALFRED FUNNELL, aged 30.

Nov. 19, at Brighton, in the 48th year of his age, JAMES WILLIAMSON, Esq., M.D., of Shelton Hall, Cheshire, for many years physician in the town of Leeds, and once mayor of the town.

Nov. 19, at his residence, in Glastonbury, aged 43, ROBERT JAMES, Esq., solicitor. He was also an ordained minister of the Independent denomination, and, as such, pastor successively over the churches at Barton, St David, and at Magdalen street, Glastonbury.

Nov. 20, at Tor, Devon, ELIZABETH GURNEY, second daughter of Robert BARCLAY, Esq., of Lombard street, banker.

Nov. 21, JOHN GEORGE HAMILTON BOURNE, Esq., late chief justice of Newfoundland, in the 42nd year of his age.

## Trade and Commerce.

Friday, November 21.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to an act of 6 and 7 William IV., cap. 85:—

Independent Chapel, Worksop, Nottinghamshire.

Wesleyan Chapel, St. Helen's, Lancashire.

## BANKRUPTS.

ATKIN, WILLIAM, Stockton-upon-Tees, Durham, grocer, Nov. 28, and Dec. 30; solicitors, Mr W. L. Harle, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; and Messrs Chisholme and Co., Lincoln's-inn fields, London.

BROWN, JOHN, Notting-hill, builder, Nov. 28, and Jan. 10; solicitors, Mr Elderton, Louthbury; and Mr Richards, Croydon.

BOWEN, CHARLES, Harp lane, Tower street, wine merchant, Nov. 28, and Jan. 10; solicitor, Mr Gale, Basinghall street.

BLACKMORE, WILLIAM HENRY, Dean street, Soho, plumber, Dec. 2, and Jan. 7; solicitors, Messrs Wood and Fraser, Dean street, Soho.

CHALONER, WILLIAM, Lincoln, tailor, Dec. 2, and 23; solicitors, Mr Pocock, Bartholomew close, London; Mr Mence, Barnsley; and Mr Bond, Leeds.

HAMMER, JOSEPH, Vine place, Tabernacle square, glove manufacturer, Dec. 2, and Dec. 30; solicitor, Mr Brisley, Panchras lane, Cheapside.

HARMAN, CHARLES MORGAN, Millbank street, Westminster, veterinary surgeon, Nov. 28, and Jan. 10; solicitor, Mr R. C. Barton, Wolsingham place, Kennington road, Lambeth.

KELLY, WILLIAM LANCELOT, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, printer, Dec. 5, and Jan. 2; solicitors, Messrs Baylis and Drewe, Basinghall street, London; and Messrs Richards and Co., Tewkesbury.

KENDALL, JAMES CARSE, Canonbury Tavern, Islington, tavern keeper, Dec. 2, and Dec. 30; solicitor, Mr T. Wells, Bell yard, Doctors' commons.

PARR, JOHN, South Wharf road, Paddington, coal dealer, Dec. 5, and Jan. 30; solicitors, Messrs Maples and Co., Frederick's place, Old Jewry.

PRATT, GEORGE, and BODLE, JOHN, Addison road, North, Notting hill, builders, Dec. 2, and Jan. 6; solicitor, Mr Leigh, George street, Mansion house.

SAWYER, GEORGE, Lewes, Sussex, tailor, Dec. 5, and Jan. 13; solicitors, Messrs Wood and Fraser, Dean street, Soho.

WORLEY, ROBERT, Newgate street, provision merchant, Dec. 2, and Jan. 6; solicitors, Messrs Lawrance and Plews, Bucklersbury.

## SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

HARLEY, JAMES, Glasgow, wholesale general warehouseman, Nov. 26, and Dec. 17.

SMITH, JOHN, Burghhead, grocer, Nov. 25, and Dec. 4.

## DIVIDEND.

Nov. 25. William Miers, Leeds, oil merchant.

Tuesday, November 25th.

## BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

John Sutcliffe, jun., Halifax, Yorkshire, rectifier.

## BANKRUPTS.

COOKE, WILLIAM, Egham, innkeeper, Dec. 5, Jan. 16; solicitor, Mr Buchanan, Walbrook buildings.

EVANS, JOHN, High street, Shoreditch, cheesemonger, Dec. 3, Jan. 7; solicitor, Mr Ashley, Shoreditch.

LONDON, WILLIAM, sen. and jun., Exeter, curriers, Dec. 9, Jan. 6; solicitor, Mr Terrell, Exeter.

LITTLE, GEORGE, Southampton terrace, Camden Town, corn chandler, Dec. 5, Jan. 13; solicitor, Mr Hardwan, Bowling-green street, Kennington.

MORE, RICHARD, Norwich, coal merchant, Dec. 2, Jan. 6; solicitors, Mr Jay, Bucklersbury, and Messrs Jay and Pilgrim, Norwich.

ROPER, JOHN LAND, Rochester, linendraper, Dec. 2, Jan. 10; solicitors, Messrs Badham, Houghton, and Co., Verulam buildings, Gray's inn.

RUSSELL, CHARLES JOSEPH, Ludlow, scrivener, Dec. 11, Jan. 7; solicitors, Messrs Motteram and Knowles, Birmingham.

WADHAM, CHARLES, Charlotte street, Portland place, New road, carpenter, Dec. 5, Jan. 13; solicitor, Mr Goren, Southmilton street, Oxford street.

WARREN, JOHN, George street, Hanover square, dentist, Dec. 2, Jan. 9; solicitor, Mr Buchanan, Basinghall street.

WOODHAMS, JOSEPH, High street, Portland town, plumber, Dec. 9, Jan. 16; solicitor, Mr Chamberlayne, Great James street, Bedford row.

## SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

WALLACE, J., Glasgow, manufacturer, Nov. 28, Dec. 19.

BARRY, P., Glasgow, fletcher, Dec. 1, and 22.

BAIR, J., Glasgow, victualler, Dec. 3, and 24.

GRACIE, R. and A. jun., Glencairn, cattle-dealers, Dec. 1, and 30.

## DIVIDENDS.

Nov. 29, A. H. Chambers, sen. and jun., New Bond street and Southmilton street, bankers—Barber and Marshall, Wall-sall, bankers—December 2, C. W. Kesselmeier, Manchester, merchant—November 28, A. H. Simpson and P. H. Irvin, Blackfriars road, engineers—J. Bennett, Little Birch, Herefordshire, cattle dealer—C. Sharratt, Walsall, saddlers' ironmonger—November 22, C. Webb, Oxford, apothecary—Nov. 22, H. Haynes, Seole, Norfolk, wine merchant—Nov. 22, W. H. Baldock, Canterbury, banker—Nov. 22, J. Groombridge, Abbey street, Bermondsey, licensed victualler—Nov. 22, T. R. Withers, Eling, Hampshire, brewer—Nov. 28, J. Lewis, Birmingham, card manufacturer—T. W. Green, Leeds, bookseller—T. Bousfield, Lincoln, ironmonger—Dec. 2, B. Wrigley, Horst, in Saddleworth, Yorkshire, woollen-cloth manufacturer—Dec. 2, E. Lawton and T. Kay, Rochdale, ironfounders.

## BRITISH FUNDS.

	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 percent. Consols	96	96	95½	95½	95½	94½
4 percent. Account	96	96½	96½	95	95½	95½
3 percent. Reduced	95	95	94½	94½	94½	93
New 3½ percent. ....	97½	97½	96	96	96½	95½
Long Annuities ....	104	104	104	104	104	104
Bank Stock .....	206	207	205	206	204½	204
India Stock .....	—	—	264	262	264	260½
Exchequer Bills .....	25pm	25pm	26pm	26pm	26pm	27pm
India Bonds .....	—	42	—	—	42	42

## FOREIGN FUNDS.

Belgian .....	95½	Mexican .....	30
Brazilian .....	82	Peruvian .....	38½
Buenos Ayres .....	41	Portuguese 5 per cents	24
Columbian .....	164	Portuguese 3 per cents	50½
Danish .....	86	Russian .....	112
Dutch 2½ per cents .....	59½	Spanish Active .....	37½
Ditto 4 per cents .....	94	Ditto Passive .....	7
French 3 per cents .....	82½	Ditto Deferred .....	16½

## RAILWAY SHARES.

Birmingham & Gloucester	125	London & Croydon	100
Blackwall .....	82	London and Greenwich	—
Bristol and Exeter .....	—	Ditto New .....	—
Eastern Counties .....	29½	Manchester and Leeds	—
Edinburgh and Glasgow	68	Midland Counties .....	143
Grand Junction .....	—	Ditto New Shares .....	20
Great North of England ..	214	Manchester and Birm'g	71
Great Western .....	149	Midland and Derby .....	111
Ditto Half .....	86½	Ditto New .....	—
Ditto Fifths .....	34	South Eastern and Dover	36½
London and Birmingham ..	214	South Western .....	71
London & Birm. ½ Shares	24	Ditto New .....	6½
London and Brighton .....	60	York and North Midland	104

## MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, Nov. 24.

The supply of wheat from the home counties this morning was again short, which enabled factors to realise an advance of 1s. to 2s. per qr. on all good dry sweet parcels. Free foreign sells, in retail, on fully as good terms. Nothing passing in bonded, which is held very firmly. Fine samples of maiting barley sell on quite as good terms; but all other sorts are fully 1s. per qr. cheaper, and difficult to quit. The arrivals of oats are large, as reported; but the greater part of the supply was on sale this day week. Our dealers purchased freely last market-day at a reduction of 6d. to 1s. per qr.; the trade to-day is firm, and we have had a moderate extent of business at nearly the rates of this day se'nlight.

Wheat, Red .....	52 to 61	Malt, Ordinary ..	50 to 54
White .....	54 to 65	Pale .....	55 to 64
Barley .....	59 to 67	Rye .....	34 to 40
Flour, per sack ..	64 to 75	Peas, Hog .....	38 to 40
Barley .....	55 to 60	Maple .....	45 to 46
Malting .....	31 to 34	Boilers .....	49 to 56
	32 to 37	Beans, Ticks .....	34 to 41

  

Beans, Pigeon .....	48 to 54	Wheat .....	14s. 0d.
Harrow .....	36 to 42	Barley .....	5 0
Oats, Feed .....	22 to 25	Oats .....	4 0
Fine .....	25 to 29	Rye .....	7 6
Poland .....	24 to 28	Beans .....	1 0
Potato .....	27 to 29	Peas .....	1 0

  

Wheat .....	58s. 6d.	Wheat .....	58s. 11d.
Barley .....	35 0	Barley .....	33 5
Oats .....	26 3	Oats .....	24 10
Rye .....	38 2	Rye .....	35 0
Beans .....	44 5	Beans .....	44 8
Peas .....	45 5	Peas .....	44 3

## SEEDS, MONDAY, NOV. 24.

The high prices which continue to be asked for cloverseed have hitherto prevented extensive sales, and affairs remained in precisely the same position this morning as last week. Quotations of other kinds of seeds were also much the same.

## POTATOES, SOUTHWARK, Waterside, Nov. 24.

We regret to state that we cannot give a better account of the appearance of potatoes in this market, and it is distressing to witness the immense sacrifice of property. The greater part of the fleet that arrived at the close of last week and the beginning of this was in a very damaged state; several cargoes were abandoned by the consignee, and many other lots were discharged that did not pay the current expenses. The saleable samples of York reds were sold from 5s. to 100s.; Regents, 60s. to 100s.; superior Regents, perfectly free from the disease, 110s. to 120s. There is one cargo of Jersey blues in the market, selling slowly at 75s.; saleable Scotch, from 10s. to 80s.

## PROVISIONS, LONDON, Monday, Nov. 24.

The Irish butter market still continues in a dull and inactive state, and but a moderate business transacted during the past week; the advices from the Irish markets being high, prevent any material reduction in price, holders not pressing sales. The Bacon market is also quiet, the late arrivals having given the dealers a temporary supply. We experience but a slow sale, as they will only purchase to supply their immediate demand. Prime fresh steaks, 55s. to 56s.; and heavy, 53s. to 55s. landed; on board little or nothing doing. There is more business doing in lard, at a reduction of 1s. to 2s. per cwt.

## HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, Nov. 24.

The market is steady at about previous rates, with a moderate business doing.

## BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, Nov. 24.

Owing to the unusually large attendance of country buyers, the beef trade was active, at an advance in the quotations of 2d. per 8lbs.—the prime Scots producing 4s. 6d. per 8lbs., and at which a good clearance was effected. The numbers of sheep being rather more than equal to meet the wants of the butchers, the mutton trade was in a sluggish state, and previous figures were with difficulty supported. Prime small calves sold freely, at full prices; otherwise, the veal trade ruled dull. The pork trade was again steady, but no advance can be noticed in prices.

## SUPPLIES.

	Nov. 25, 1844.	Nov. 24, 1845.
Beasts .....	3,338	3,524
Sheep .....	27,270	27,040
Calves .....	84	82
Pigs .....	450	300

## Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

Beef .....	2s. 10d. to 4s. 6d.	Veal .....	4s. 0d. to 5s. 0d.
Mutton .....	3 4 5 0	Pork .....	3 10 5 2

## NEWGATE and LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, Nov. 16.

	Per 8lbs. by the carcass.		Per 8lbs. by the carcass.
Inferior Beef 2s. 8d. to 2s. 10d.		Inf. Mutton	3s. 8d. to 4s. 0d.
Middling do 3 0 .. 3 2		Mid. ditto	4 2 .. 4 4
Prime large 3 4 .. 3 6		Prime ditto	4 6 .. 4 8
Prime small 3 6 .. 3 8		Veal	3 10 .. 4 10
Large Pork 3 10 .. 4 8		Small Pork	4 10 .. 5 4

## WOOL.

The near approach of our public sales, and the share panic in Yorkshire, have caused a limited demand for all kinds of wool. A further quantity of fine wool has been withdrawn for the present.

## COTTON.

LIVERPOOL, Nov. 21.—The market for cotton has again become dull and depressed. The trifling advance obtained last week in prices has been lost again. The hostile tendency of the advices from the United States has been more than counteracted by the increased value of money, and the prospect of an early import.

## HAY, SMITHFIELD, Nov. 15.—At per load of 36 trusses.

Old Meadow .....	—s. to —s.	New Clover Hay ..	90s. to 120s.
New ditto .....	70 .. 100	Old ditto .....	— .. —
Useful Old ditto ..	— .. —	Oat Straw .....	34 .. 36
Fine Upland ditto ..	— .. —	Wheat Straw .....	36 .. 38

## COAL EXCHANGE, Nov. 21.

Stewart's, 18s. 0d.; Hetton's, 18s. 0d.; Braddyll's Hettons, 18s. 0d. Ships arrived this week, 235.

## GROCERIES—TUESDAY, NOV. 25.

TEA.—The deliveries of the last week amount to 480,000 lbs. The market continues dull. Common Congou are quoted 9½d. to 10d.; good common 10½d. to 11d. per lb.

SUGAR.—The trade bought about 470 hhds and tierces. Prices were rather firmer than on Friday last. There was more doing in refined goods, standard lumps selling at 67s., and brown grocery at 65s. 6d. to 66s. per cwt.; 2,100 bags Bengal offered in auction were only sold in part, at former rates; low to good middling yellow, Mauritius kind, sold at 48s. to 53s.; middling grey, 50s. to 50s. 6d.; low to middling white, 54s. to 55s.; Bally Khat where taken in; fine strong white, 60s. to 61s.; good to fine yellow, 55s. to 59s. 6d.; good to fine strong brown, 44s. to 45s. 6d. per cwt.

COFFEE.—There were no public sales. Ceylon native good ordinary are selling at 49s. to 50s. per cwt., being an advance of 1s. per cwt.

## Advertisements.

## THE PIQUA PLANT.—EXTRAORDINARY ECONOMY TO TEA-DRINKERS.

The Piqua Plant is, indeed, an article which claims pre-eminence as a boon for the poor, a delicacy to the rich, a blessing to invalids, and an advantage to the public to the highest degree—unto all and every one. In calling public attention to the

Piqua Plant, the proprietor wishes it to be tested solely by its own merits, being assured an unprejudiced trial will establish its worth better than the most laboured eulogy. It is most pleasant and invigorating, and is recommended to the debilitated for its invaluable qualities, to advanced age for its strengthening properties, and to the public generally for its moderate price and intrinsic excellence.

The Test: The proof of the efficacy and healthful effect of the plant in preference to tea or coffee. Let a nervous or dyspeptic patient use two or three cups of strong tea upon retiring to rest, and the effect will be the nightmare, disturbed sleep, and other violent symptoms of indigestion, &c.—The Proof: Let the most debilitated, dyspeptic, asthmatic, consumptive, and nervous patients, use two, three, or more cups of a very strong infusion of the Piqua Plant, and in the morning they will awake refreshed with their repose. It is highly recommended by physicians to invalids and children as a most invigorating and pleasant beverage.

The following are reasons why the Piqua Plant is superior to tea, viz.:—1st. Because it is beneficial to health; 2nd. It does not injure the nerves; 3rd. Children may use it with advantage; 4th. It does not prevent sleep; 5th. A quarter of a pound will go as far as three quarters of the best gunpowder tea; 6th. It is strengthening and nutritious; 7th. It is recommended by physicians, and tea is disapproved of by them. It greatly improves the voice; it is recommended to singers and public speakers.

## TESTIMONIALS.

To Mr Wm. Evans. Sir,—The beverage under the name of Piqua Plant I have drank for some time. It was first recommended to my notice as a salutary beverage by a friend who is a great dyspeptic, and I have since recommended it to several patients suffering from chronic affections of the digestive organs, heart, and lungs, with manifest advantage.

JOHN BRYANT, M.D.

30, Edgware road, July 1, 1843.

To Mr Wm. Evans. Sir,—At a social party, convened expressly for the purpose of testing the Piqua Plant in this town (Belfast), we, whose signatures are attached to this document, consider it a duty incumbent upon us to bear our most ardent testimony to its salutary, convalescent, and exhilarating qualities.—Dr Carse, Dr Read, John M'Beair, surgeon, Archy Carse, Dr Gordon, Dr Davidson, John Ellison, Methodist preacher, John Johnson, and N. P. Neile, Lake-View House, near Carsons, Ireland, agent for the Piqua Plant. I would just say, in conclusion, that your plant has exceeded my most sanguine expectations. I am fully sensible that I can obtain a great consumption for it in this locality, as the last I got (viz. 14lbs.) was sold in two days. Many are coming now it is all gone. Finally, it is the opinion of those who give it a fair trial that it is much superior to tea, on account of its medicinal, invigorating, and exhilarating qualities.

N. P. NEILE.

Lake-View House, Carsons, Ireland, April 16, 1845.

To Mr Wm. Evans. Sir,—After giving your plant a fair trial, I with pleasure offer my most favourable testimony as to its beneficial effects on the system generally. It forms an agreeable beverage, and I strongly recommend its use to persons labouring under nervous depression or derangement of the digestive organs.

J. RENNIE, M.R.C.S., &amp;c.

To Mr Wm. Evans. Sir—I have great pleasure, and indeed I consider it an imperative duty, in justice to you, and for the benefit of others, to bear testimony to the excellent qualities of the Piqua Plant. It has wholly removed a constant painful nervous debility with which I was affected, which produced restless nights, and constantly, overpowering languor during the day. Since the use of the infusion, the disease has entirely disappeared. I sleep soundly for six, seven, and eight hours together, and am better in health than I have been for many years; and others to whom I have recommended it have experienced the same results. You are at liberty to use this testimonial, which I am ready to confirm in person any day you may think proper.

G. TAHOUDIN.

Belvidere place, Borough road, July 17, 1845.

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*Edward Miles*